

Cyuite and vncyuite life.



Douce
L. 190.

A discourse very profitable,
pleasant, and fit to bee read of
all Nobilitie and Gentlemen.

Where, in forme of a Dialogue
is disputed, what order of lyfe best be-
seemeth a Gentleman in all ages and
times: aswel for educatiō, as the course
of his whole life: to make him a parson
fit for the publique service of his prince
and Countrey, and for the quiet, and
trimlynnesse of his owne private estate
and callinge.

Imprinted at London, by
Richard Fones, and are to bee
solde at his shop ouer agaynst Sainct
Sepulchers Church. 1579.

Cynick and vnicynick life.

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pleasant, and fit to be read of
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Wherein forme of a Dialogue
is discus'd, to what order of life best be-
cometh a gentleman in all ages and
times; also for education as the course
of his whole life to make him a person
fit for the publique service of his countrey
and Country, and for the civil, and
emphaticke of his owne private estate
and callinge.

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To the right Honorable, Sir Francis
Walsingham Knight, her Maiesties
prinopall Secretary, and of her Highnesse priuy
Counsell: Richard Iones Printer, wisheth
longe life, health, and increase of honour.

Right Honourable Sir, som-
times, a prety conceite well con-
uayed, contenteth the minde, no
lesse then a graue & great booke. In euery
written worke, two thinges bee specially
required, Inuention, and Phrasc: The
one, is the substance or matter: the other,
the forme or facion: but if they bee both
good, they make the worke perfite, & win
the worker commendacion. Yea, other-
whiles, a silly Subiet substantially hand-
led, is not onely passable, but also praise-
able. A litle flower well sauored is wor-
thy smelling: A trifling stone set by a cun-
ning craftesman, deserueth to be worne:
A poore Pamphlet perfitle handled,
asketh the reading. I beseeche you then,

The Epistle dedicatory.

giue leaue, and let mee present your Honor with this litle Dialogue, written by a Gentlemā, rather for pastime, then settled studdy: and yet in my poore minde, both for wise conceyt and pleasant penninge, worthy to be read. The Author therof (as a thinge unworthy) is neither content it should presume to your presence, nor passe among the wise. Notwithstanding, without his leaue, I make bolde to aduventure the one and the other: And doo most humbly dedicate the same to your Honor, the rather because he hath loued you long, and honoured you much. I craue small praise for my Printing of it, and hee (beinge vsed to loose his labour) desireth nothinge.

Your Honours alwayes (most humbly)
to commaund. R. Jones.

THE AVCTOR, *to the Gentlemen Readers.*



Albeit I well know, that euery Gentleman, wil gentlemanly iudge of all things: yet haue I thought it no restraynt, but happely some furtherance towardes their curteous consideration, most humbly to pray pardon if ought in this present Pamphlet, bee found either in very reason, dissentinge from wiser iudgementes, or els through diuersitie of humors, not fittinge with their fancies: For some I haue seene so passionare in opinion, as can not see or heare patiently any thinge that contenteth not their owne eye, or squareth not euen with the rule of their owne mindes. But, if it pleased them to consider how hardly mennes opinions bee brought to concur, they would (I am sure) spare them selues, and not with choller & offēce, so often trouble their own thoughts. Opinion and custome (as daily experience teacheth) do leade euery one, be hee neuer so foolish or barbarous, to beleue his owne countrey condicions, and self conceytes to bee best: and therein they that haue least reason, do no lesse constantly tary, then those that vpon sound reason in deede, experience, and learninge, haue firmed their iudgementes. For, do wee not finde that the sauadge Nations, are as lothe to alter their soyle, as are wee that inhabite a most cyuill Countrey? Or do you not thinke, that many eyther through want of wil or lack of patiēce to learn, accompt men mad, that hold them selues at continuall study? And contrarywise, would any ciuill man bee pleased, to abandon his beeing, to abide amonge the sauadge? or that would leaue the study of good letters, to take plesure in those

The Epistle, by the Author,

toyes, which ignorant men delight in? surely no: and no maruaile, sith the wisest, yea the Philosophers themselves, haue euen to this day dissented in opinion. For some you se haue sought the contemplatiue life: others commended the actiue: and many preferred pleasure, as that which ought most to bee desired. Sith then, for so many reasons you finde difference in the opinions of men: and that no counsell, wit, or wil, can perswade them to one minde: my meaning is not, that though in this Dialogue accordinge to mine owne fancie, I preferre the Towne habitation, yet therby to finde fault with any, that either because his reason so perswadeth, or his own minde so delighteth, wil driue out his dayes in the Countrey. It shall therefore please me, that euery man please him selfe, vsinge the liberty and will of his owne minde: and though it be farre diuerse from mine, yet I know not why his opinion should trouble mee, or mine offende him: so longe as the direction of eyther, be still in our owne powers. VVhat harme was it to *Achilles*, though *socrates* refusing al honors, put his whole felicity in vertue? And why should *socrates* bee offended, though aboue all thinges, *Achilles* desired honour? VVhat maketh it matter, though *Heracitus*, thought that nothing was contrary to other? Or what offence was it that *permenides*, frantickly affirmed, all worldly things to bee but one thing? And if *zeno* perswaded him selfe that nothing mooued? All which opinions and errors, could nothinge disturbe the patience of the true *Philosophers*, who set their delight in contemplation, and loue of Th'almighty.

Tot capita, tot sensus, the Prouerbe sayth: VVe see then, that the endes of mans delights bee diuerse, and for the most parte contrary: although the end of euery mans

life.

to the Gentlemen Readers.

life, is one. The life of man may therefore be compared
to Iron, which beeing vsed, becommeth bright and
shyning, yet at last worne to nothing: Or if it bee not
vsed, but layde vp, doth neuerthelesse consume with
rustines. Even so, mans age well imployed, weareth
with some glosse or brightnesse of Fame: or if it bee
without action, and obscurely passed, yet doth it not
continue euer: for death (certayne) is the end both of
the one and the other. God graunt that euery man
may lyue in the true feare of the Lorde, and the due
obedience of his Prince, so shall hee eyther in Courte,
Towne, or Countrey, most happely end his daies.

FINIS.

The Argument and occasion of this Dialogue.

It happened (as ofte it doth) that diuerse Gentlemen beinge conuited to dyne togeathers: Among many other thinges, they chaunced to fall in speche of the Countrey and Courtly lques, reasoninge whyther it were better for the Gentlemen of Englande to make most abode in their Countrey houses, (as our English manner is,) or els ordinarily to inhabite the Citties and chiefe Townes, as in some foraine Nations is the custome. These Gentlemen as they were diuersly disposed and vsed, so were their opinions of this matter likewise differinge: some commending the Countrey dwelling, others preferring the Cittie habitation. This matter a while spoken of by euery one, was at length by assente of the whole company disputed by two Gentlemen, th'one (for this time) I will call Vincent, th'other Vallentine, both men of more then comon capacity, & (haply) sumwhat learned. Vincent had bene brought vp in the Countrey: Vallentine his education and life was in Courts and Citties. Either of them with the best reasons they could, maintayned their opinions, as hereafter in this discourse you shal plainly perceane.

Of cyuile and uncyuile life.

The Speakers.

Vincent and Valentine.

Tis a strange matter to se, how
menne in this age, and in this Realme of
England, begin to alter their manners &
customes, not onely in garments, & ordinary beha-
viour, (which be things of none importance:) But
even in their order of life, and conuersation.

Vallentine.

Sir, it is true, that some doo, but the most doo
not: But wherin I pray you, do you note the cheefe
chaunge, and in what sortes of men, and whether
is this alteratiō, from worse to better, or from bet-
ter to worse?

Vincent.

This chaunge (wherof I meane) is like to the
rest of worldly chaunges: that is, from the better
to the worse: for as the Proverbe sayth: Seldome
coms the better.

Vallentine.

That Proverbe in deed is auncient, and for the
most part true, beeing truly applied: yet because I
am lothe to mistake your meaninge, I desire to
know, whether in lamentinge of alteration, you in-
clude

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clude the whole world, or some perticuler countrey:
or whether you will haue mee to apply it to Eng-
land, and to some sortes of English men only: For
with other Nations (I suppose) you haue practised
litle.

Vincent.

In deede, I am a home bred bird, and therefore
will not take vpon mee to discourse of forrayne
customes, though I heare they bee bad enough:
But as I tolde you at the first, I am sorre to see
Englishmen, so apte to leaue their auncient good
fashions, and fall into forrayne manners, in my
pooze minde, much worse, then our owne. And
because our talke shall not bee ouer tedious, I will
not at this time tell you of all faultes (wherof I
wilshe amendment :) But only of one matter, and
that in one sort of men.

Vallentine.

You do very wisely to reduce matters into brieft,
wherin you shall both ease your selfe, and helpe my
memory, which is, (I confesse) but litle worth.

Vincent.

I know (Maister Vallentine) your memory is very
good, & so is there in you many other commendable
partes, though you, for modesty, will not so say.
For you Trauellers are full of respects and in all
your dooinges, your manner is to ble modesty.

Vallentine.

I thanke you Sir, for so sayinge, and more I
thanke you if such bee in deed your opinion of mee.

Vincent.

Touching mine opinion, you shalbe assured, it
is, and ever shalbe such, as I say: For I am (as

I

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I tolde you) a plaine man, vtterly vnacquainted
with disguising, and superfluous ceremony, yea in
troth, they are thinges much diuers, from mine e-
ducation, and nature.

Valentine.

I loue you a great Deale the more, for in good
faith, I am made of the selfe same mould. And
though (Desire to know) did carry mee in youth far
from home, and that into Countries, both beyond
the Seas, and Mountaynes also, yet haue not
those ayres any whit, altered my loue from my na-
tural Countrey.

Vincent.

That so beeinge (as vpon your worde, I will
now beleue it is) I will trust the rather to your
talke, and thinke that, what you doo answere to
my demaundes, is in troth, that your selfe doth
faithfully follow.

Valentine

I pray you (Maister Vincent) lay by these curte-
sies, and fall to the matter of your demaundes. For
mee thinkes, (though you would be called a playne
man) yet you vse more ceremony, then I, that haue
spente some parte of my life in Countries, where
those customes are most plentifull.

Vincent.

Well, then I will holde you no longer in these
complaintes, (which wordes I learne of you tra-
uellers.) But fall into the matter it selfe.

Valentine.

Indeed Sir, that is my desire, & sith it seemeth
that the subiect of your speech shalbe in comparing:
of our countrey customs, with those of forrain na-
tions

But

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tions, I hope you will hold mee blameles, (though occasion beeinge offered) I happen to finde faulte with somewhat of our owne, and commend the customes of others: which I will doe the more boldly, because you tolde mee, you loued plainenes, and therfore bee content, our talke may bee free speech, and without respect.

Vincent.

On Gods name, so let vs proceede, and (as I promised) least our talke should extend too farre, I will neither aske your opinion of all customes, nor of all sortes of men: but onely desire to be resolved of one doubt, in one thing, which toucheth mee onely, and others of my degree and condition.

Vallentine.

And I pray you Sir, what may that bee?

Vincent.

You know the vse and annient custome of this Realme of England was, that all Noble men and Gentlemen, (not called to attendance in our Princes seruice) did continually inhabite the countreyes, continuing there, from age to age, and from Aunceller, to aunceller, a continuall house, and hospitallitie, which got them great loue amonge their Neighbours, releued many poore wretches, and wrought also diuerse other good effectes, as hereafter I will tell you.

Vallentine.

In deede Sir, I will not denie, that the Country ayre is hollesome, to gaie the loue of neighbors is very good, and to releue the poore is an acte of much charity: But to what end speake you this, for to your well liking of these matters, euery man will assent.

Vincent.

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Vincent.

I wish to God, they would: but I see, that Gentlemen begin to take another course, a fallinge from the vse of their Ancestors, doo now eyther altogether (or very much) leaue to dwell in their Country houses, inhabitinge Citties, and great Townes, which manner of livinge, I cannot allow. Though it bee (as I heare) vsed in forraigne Countreyes. And because you haue seene both fashions, my desire is (as a man of experience in both) you will faithfully informe mee, which of these orders of livinge you like best.

Vallentine.

Oh Sir, now at length you are come to the matter, which (as I conceaue) is nothinge els, but that you woulde knowe whither it were best that gentlemen, should inhabite (as they did anciently) their owne houses in the Country, or the Citties, as in many forraigne nations the custome is.

Vincent.

In troth, that is the somme and whole effecte of my demaund, and nothinge els I will for this time desire to knowe your opinion of, vnesse occasion of our speech shall so require.

Vallentine.

For my opinion herein (though it bee of small authority) such as it is I will tell you plainely, yet (as it seemeth by your former speech) it will discent with yours. For as you commend the continuall habitation of the country, so do I vtterly disalowe therof, as a custome, neither good for the common welth, neither for the gentils that do vse it: which you shall perceaue playnly, if it please you to com-

Will

pare

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pare the commodities with the discommodities, of either: the good, with the bad, which is in either: the profit with the disprofit, which is in either: the quiet, and disquiet which is in either. And the securitie, with the hazard that is in either: all which (without priuate Passion) well waied, will easily lead you to the troth: But first, because you affect the country life, I pray you commend it particularly, the best you may, and giue mee leaue to remember you with the discommodities therof, least you growe ouer fatte, with feedinge vpon your owne affection. When it commeth to my lot to speake of my liking, you shall without offence, bee as bold with mee.

Vincent.

With all good will (Maister Vallentine,) But I pray you marke well what I say, and forget (duringe my discourse) the peticuler loue you bare to some Italian or Spanish Lady, During your abode, on that side: Least that priuate Passion doth make your likinge to their customes so delicate, as you loath our owne country quiet, and commoditie.

Vallentine.

May Sir, you shall not neede to doubt any such parcialitie, for it is long sithence I was there: and besides that, my bloud is now ouer colde to kindle any such fier. And therfore to our purpose.

Vincent.

Then I pray you vnderstand, that I remaine of the auncient minde of our English Gentlemen, who euer, even to this day (or very lately) did thinke the country habitation best, as a life and education most honest, most pleasant, and most profitable.

Vallentine

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Valentine: I like the diuision very wel: in any wise, proceed
in that order.

Vincen: I haue ener, and ener will accompt, that educati-
on, a life most honest, which is nourished in iustice,
truth, and plaine dealinge, free from fraude, and
dissimulatio: things (as I thinke) kile bled among
vs plaine men of the Country: And first to speake
of education of our Children, wee acquaint them
not with any crafty company: wee clad them simply
to eschue pride: wee feede them grosely, to harden
their bodie: and wee teache them Schoole lear-
ning, to know good from bad: other qualities in
their childhood, wee commonly doe not giue them,
as things which are either hurtful or superfluous:
being growen to riper age, wee sende them to the
Vniuersitie, where many becoine so learned, as
they gaue by learning their owne liuing: or if not,
yet such taste of learninge, as they are the better.
Some also we bring vp in p. houses of Court, where
if they profite, wee suffer them to proceede: if not,
speedely reuoke them from thence, least they ac-
quaint themselves to much, with the licentious
customes of the Cittie: as with quarreling, dyeing,
dauncing, deceiuing, flouting, drauing, & inderting.
To teach them these, there wanteth not in euery
streete instructions ynow. Wee therefore holde it
best, not to hazard our children abroad from our
houses, vntill it be in these places of order, and
there also suffer them not to continue, vntill wee
see their disposition to learning. To serue in Court,
or followe the war, wee accompt those liues rather
leude,

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lewde, then laudable: these trades are commonly hard, and their hazard greater, then wee (beeinge borne to wealth, and worship) will put our Babes vnto: In conclusion, our care in education of children is such, as wee study cheefly to make them honest and iust, wise and welthy, obedient and assured. Which commodities, others that haunt the Court the Cittie, the Warre, and the world: either they want, or with great hepe, or hazard they haue the. Thus much I thinke shall suffice, to enforce you of our education, I thinke you partly knowe it, els I would speake at more large: Now do you allowe therof tell mee playnely: And then I will speake of our lynes, and how honestly wee liue. For that was my promise.

Vallemine: I allowe of your zeale to honesty in education, but if you mixe it with some other thinges, I will like it the better. That you study to bring vp your children in honesty, which is vertue, and cheefely iustice (for of that vertue men bee called good) I doo not onely allowe you, but commend you: Yet if you remember what Tully telleth you, (for sure I am you haue bin a Scholler) That men are not only borne to themselves: Then will you ad some other vertues and knowledges to these, you wish to bee in your children, for besides, that all men are not apt for one thinge, yet is it commendable, nay rather necessary, that there bee persons prepared for sundry actions, not so much to serue their owne turnes, as their Prince and Countrey: Respectes of more importaunce, then the safety of any private Gentleman, either his person, his patrimony, or his

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his Parēts. for as you said the sum of your intent, was to frame your childrē to be honest, & iust: wise, & welthy: obedient and assured. All which things I allow, as lawdable, beeing not misunderstood. And first, touching honesty & iustice, I accompt them as one: for indeed, an honest man, is a iust man: & a iust man is honest: & that is hee that liueth iustly & honestly, in respect of loue to honesty & iustice: and not hee that is iust, either for feare, or for lacke of skil, to be worse: for vertue is a volūtary, & knowing good habite: Therefore if your Sonne be honest & iuste, either for feare of punishment, or for ignorance, because he knoweth not how to be vniust, or false, I assent not vnto you, for then, he may be rather called a good, honest, iust foole, then an honest, or iust wise man: Touching the next, which are to be wise and welthy, to put these two into one, it may happen to proue that they concurre, though most commonly I haue seene few wise men welthy: not because welth shunneth wisdom: but rather, because wisdom seldome seeketh after welth. Yet in your lence (I suppose) it may stand well: for you accompt no man wise, but those that be welthy: and I doo also assent vnto you, so that you are contente to meane sufficient wealth: but to seeke after priuate goods, omittinge all publique action, and priuate contemplation, I holde not that man wise, for hee shall do (as Marcus the Emperour sayd of Marchants:) Labour and liue miserably, to die rich: To the thirde of your endes, wherunto the education of your children tended, which is obedience with safety: surely, for the first there is no nation, no, scantly

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stantly the most barbarous, but wil commend obedience, & therin rest you firme: but what you mean by safety I doo not so well know, but for ought I conceiue, it is the eschuing of perill & paynes, which beeing your intent (as it seemeth it is) I can by no meanes assent vnto you. For if you consider well (as mens bodies be diuerse,) so are their mindes & inclinations diuerse: euery one is not disposed to one thing, nor to one actiō: & therfore whē you disallow of allsorts of learning & action, but of those that be for gayne and rewarde, I accompt your iudgement reprobable. I wish therfore cleane cōtrary to your minde, that in respect of the common wealth, & the seruice therof, (wherunto we are all bound, yea the best of vs all) that such younge Gentlemen as are not inclined to learning, should by their Parentes, bee not only suffered, and encouraged; but also to their powers enabled, to trauaile countreyes, & haunt & warres. In which trades of life, although touchinge their persons, there bee greater perill then in study at home: yet sith the common weale may not wante such men, and those knowledges not gotten without perill. I iudge it a lesse euill to hazard mens bodies in them (though many perish) then utterly to want them, and haue our children safe at home. Euery man by nature is condemned to die, & better it is to aduenture an honest death, then to continue an unprofitable life: To answere the rest of your speech, that in warre, in Court, and Cittie, is great store of euill cōpany: Thereto I say there is also many good: Therfore good counsaile of freends, & honest discretion of younge men, may learne them to make choise: Besides that, it

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is good, to know euill, not to vse it, but to alloyd it:
and for the most part, things are indifferēt, and
not perfit. Besides vertue, there is nothing in per-
fection good: nor besides vice, nothing in perfection
euill. Therefore though your childe must needes
know some euill, in learning good: yet is it better
hee know it, with some hazard, then want his good
for feare of that hazard. If no man would approach
the fier, because it hath burned many a house, and
many a heedlesse man, also, that haue fallen into it,
then would many a one, freeze to death: & though
the Sea, hath drowned many thousands, yet no
wilddoone would that sayling should bee forbidden:
for (as erst I sayd) in euery thing excepting vertue,
is cominodity and discominodity, & when the good
doth or may surpasse the bad, no man doth (or at
the least ought) shun the aduenture, where good is
the marke, and the end honest. Vincent.

In good faith Sir, you haue spoken more, then
euer I did heretofore consider: for in deede, when
I bethinke mee of your discourse, I remēber how
diuersely my poore children are in nature affected:
some of the are of the selues very bookish, others
for none entisement, or compulsion can be brought
to learn: so as (I suppose) you say truly, & if I durst
hazard their persons, & suffer them to try their for-
tune abroad, they might attaine to sunto what. And
Fortune (as some Clerkes say) is very freendly to
folke aduenturous. Vallentine.

Well, I am glad, my speech hath drawen you to
consideration, of any good thing, before either vn-
thought of, or forgottē. But I am sure you take my
mening, as it is, to remēber you, & not to coucel you.

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Vincent.

Sir, I thanke you, that you yeeld mee that honoz, to say so: this proceedeth of your fauour. But I must confesse troth, that I neuer cast my minde so far from home. And I therby conceiue that a cominon wealth, hath occasion aswell to imploy men expert in warre, as others learned in lawes, though of these wee haue most vse.

Vallentine.

Yea Sir, therof assure your selfe, and in some Countreyes where God hath suffered vnquietnes, there is more want of good Capitaynes, then learned Doctors: yea in such estate hath our Country beene, and may bee: for nothing is assured, but besides Warriours, Princes haue occasion to imploy many other Gentlemen of experience. For I can accompt vnto you sundry honest qualities that are very comendable in men, and necessary for the state.

Vincent.

I praye would I bee enformed of all. But first let mee intreat you, to tell what are, or ought to bee, the cheefe professions of a Gentleman.

Vallentine.

That can I doo, and in fewe wordes.

Vincent.

So much the better, for my memory shall the more easely beare them away, therefore without more request. I pray you proceede.

Vallentine.

The cheefe and onely professions, wherby a Gentleman should receaue aduancement, or commendacion, are Armes, and Learninge. For in these

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these two onely should hee exercise him selfe.

Vincent.

Surely Sir, they seeme to bee noble quallities, but I thinke hard to excel in them. But is not Husbandry, Tillage, Grasinge, Marchandise, buying and selling, with such other trades (as wee Country men vse) thinges meete for a Gentleman?

Vallentine.

In plaine speeche I tell you, that I thinke not one of them fit for a gentlemans exercise.

Vincent.

And why so? are they not commonly vsed of Gentlemen? and by them they doo receaue daily profit: the lawes doo allowe of them as thinges commendable. Also by them many poore yonger Bretheren without lande (as commonly they are all) doo by the Plough, maintayne him selfe, his wife and family.

Vallentine.

A poore maintenance, and a slowe thriste, God knoweth, and full euill it becometh the person of a Gentleman to practise any of these trades.

Vincent.

Then I pray you tell mee how many wayes a man, without land, may gayne his lyuinge Gentlemanlike.

Vallentine.

There are three wayes to doo it.

Vincent.

And which are they, I pray you informe mee.

Vallentine.

There is Arte, Industry, and Service.

Vincent.

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Vincent.

What you meane by euery of these, I pray you let mee know, for I am borne, I thanke God, to some reuenues of mine owne : and therfore haue litle studied to attaine to any thinge, saue that my lotte hath brought mee vnto.

Vallentine.

The better is your fortune, that haue by succession only, the whole fruite of all your auncestors traualle.

Vincent.

Euen so it is in deed, I thanke God & them for it : But I pray you answere to that I aske you.

Vallentine.

Such Artes as I with a Gentleman shold learne, must be those that commonly are called Liberall Sciences. Which and how many there bee of them, you may easely know, yea and to what purpose they serue.

Vincent.

But tell mee, are not the lawes a study very fit for a Gentleman?

Vallentine.

Yes surely, both the lawes Ciuill & Common are studies most excellent, & to speake brievely, all learnings, that tend to action in the state either Ciuill, or Martiall.

Vincent.

Now you seeme to talke of great misteries, but wee gentlemen in the Country, vnlesse our sonnes proceed in the study of the comon lawes, Diuinitie, or Phisicke, doo holde them learned ynough if they can wyte and read English, and congrue Latine.

Vallentine.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vallentine.

If your sonne wade no deeper in learning, better vntaught at all. And I am of this minde, & these common Schooles (wherof in England are many) that receaue all sortes of children to bee taught, bee their Parents neuer so poore, and the Boyes neuer so vnapt, doo often times rather harine the good, because there they continue so long, as a good misterie or occupation might haue bin learned. For as I say, vnles the childe be apt for learning, and his freendes resolute in holdinge him to it, the thinge were better vnattempted.

Vincent.

Now (Maister Vallentine,) you seeme to speake straungly, as though VVrighting, Reading, and the Lattin tongue, were nothing worth.

Vallentine.

Sir, I do not so say, but to gaine a lyuing by the without further learninge, I thinke it hard. And therfore poore men that put so many vnapte chyl dren to the Schole, do nothing els, but offer them losse of time: For do you not meete many beggers that can doo all these, and yet you see their estate is plaine beggery?

Vincent.

That is true in deede, but yet if they bee honest and personable, they are the fitter to become Seruants to attend vpon a Noble or Worshipful man.

Vallentine.

I am glad you haue remembred mee of seruing men, for hereafter I will tel you more of my minde touching them: in the meane time, these qualitties beeing of no necessity, will litle amend their enter tainment, and their certenty nothing.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent.

Well, I doo now conceaue, what learninge you thinke meete for a Gentleman, and that for poore children (vnlesse they proceede to some perfection in learning) they were better vntaught: & in troth to haue a good occupacion, I thinke is a sure trade to take vnto, then bare wrighting and reading.

Vallentine.

Touching Industry, I wish that young Gentlemen (hauing no arte) should sundry wayes, yea, euerie wayes honest, try their fortune.

Vincent.

And howe I pray you: for of my credite (if I had no reuenues of mine owne,) I could not tell, how to gaine a groat.

Vallentine.

Yet do not you see many yonger Bretheren, that euen in forraine Countreys, haue aspired to great pensions: others haue happened vpon good Marriages, others for some notable, and egregious act, haue attained both profit and honour, whẽ others for very sloth or cowardise do liue at home, almost in beggery. Did not they better that did aduenture them selues?

Vincent.

Yes indeede, but there are few, whom fortune so wel fauoureth, and in attempting these matters many doo miscarry.

Vallentine.

No doubt of that, els their rewarde ought not to bee so great, for things easy, without hazard, euerie blockhead doth take in hand, and yet to incourage young men, aswell in Industry, as Arte, I pray you consider

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consider how fewe of infinite numbers doo profite
learned in the Uniuersities: how fewe Apprentices
doo proue rich Marchaunts: and how fewe Law
Students become Judges: And then shall you
finde the number of industrious men that thrive,
is like to the rest.

Vincent.

If I were sure, my Sonne should attaine to that
good hap you speake of, (and that some perhaps,
haue aspired vnto.) Then could I bee content, hee
should hazard him selfe: but I finde the daungers
many, & the hope so litle, as I hold better to keepe
him at home in the state of a poore yonger brother,
then see him seeke a good, so desperate.

Vallentine.

The more vntoisse you, and by so sayinge you dis-
couer the basenes of your minde, your small iudge-
ment and lesse experience: for if you had seene the
Courttes of Princes, or the warres: you shall finde
in euery of them, not only many young Gentlemen
of your condition: But also many your betters, the
Sonnnes of Knightes, Barrons, Earles, Dukes, and
Princes, & many of them, as ready to hazarde their
liues, for their honour & Country, as the poorest
or proudest Souldier. Do you then take scorne
that your Sonne should submit him selfe to that
perrill, that these Princes doo aduenture: And if
you consider how many, even of base name & birth,
through industry only, without arte, haue not only
gayned them selues, goods and glory: but also
therby haue giuen honour to all their Posterity, I
suppose you would not onely aduenture your yon-
ger Sonne, but my young Maister, your heir also.

D

yea

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

yea (rather then faile) your owne person. For had your first Ancestors beene no more industrious then you seeine, surely your name and house, had not had that worship and wealth it hath. These reasons may, mee thinke moue you to hope well of industry: But to confirme you, I will resite the names of some few, whose industry hath not only gained them selues glozy, but also their Countrey infinite good. Now say you to Columbus, and Vesputius, whose industry discovered the west part of the world: from whence the King of Spaine fetcheth yearely great Treasure: Also what do you thinke of Magelanus, that sayled about the world: yea to come nearer to your knowledge, do you not thinke that Maister Frobuscher, by his industry, and late trauaile, shall profit his Countrey, and honour himselfe: Yes surely, and a number of others, who though they haue not perfourmed so notable matters, yet haue they wonne them selues reputatiō, and meane to liue, some more, and some lesse, according to their vertue and fortune.

Vincent.

In good faith, you haue spoken very reasonably, I will no more bee soloth to let my children goe seeke their aduenture. Now tell mee some what of seruice, for (as I remember) that was the third way to aduancement:

Vallentine.

In troth, I so saide, and so I meane. Seruice, I say, hath aduanced many, and daily doth, it can not much differ from industry, sauing that it hath somewhat a straighter rule: but desire of honor in the couragious, and necessity in the poore, doth

drive

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Drive them to refuse none aduenture: Those yong Gentlemen therfore, y^e finde them selues of minde capable, & of body disposed, I wish them to haunt the warre, wherin though the paines bee greate, and the perill much, yet it entertaineth the life, and in time yeeldeth honoure: it is the common custome of France and other Countries, that yong gentlemen bee brought vp, as Pages in Court: so soone, as their Pagedom is past, they become Souldiers in some Band or Garriso, where (after knowledge and prooue) they become Officers: from Officers, Captaines of companies, and many of them gouernours of Townes, Coronels, and Chieftaynes. Is not this a better course for younge Gentlemen then tarry at home in their fathers or Brothers house, and kepe a Sparhawke, or a kennell of bawling Dogges, or that (which in mine opinion, is as bad:) Marry him selfe with some poore Mayden, and through charge of Children, become a very farmer, or Ploughman, which thinges though they bee honest, and fit for some men, yet for a Gentleman vtterly vnneede.

Vincent.

I am halfe of your minde, but this Realme hath seldome warres, and few Garrisons, where wee should resort to learne, and lesse meanes to employ or entertaine such yong men, as are apt & willing to serue.

Vallentine.

It is true, & yet are there more occasions to call the to it, then they take, & more meane to entertayne the, then (for ought I see) men of minde to deserue them.

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them, and were our nation so desirous of honour, and their owne good, as some others are, there would neuer bee lesse, then two or three hundred young Gentlemen wandring the world abroad, & seeking aduentures: yea, I suppose, wee English Gentlemen haue so heretofore vsed & matter: how could els, Iohannes Acutus, an English man haue kept that stir in Italy that hee did: who (as Iouius, and other Cronacleirs say) led 5000. English voluntary Souldiers, and during the contētions betweene Guelphi and Gibellini, did many seruices & exploits very memorably.

Vincent.

But I pray you, are there no other wayes for Gentlemens preferment, then the exercise of war?

Vallentine.

Yes Sir, els God forbid: for I would haue no man (cheefely poore men) to accompt that the war is their occupation: But rather how to serue at occasions, and the seruice done, quietly to retier themselves to their owne houses, Maisters, freends, or other industry, not doing as I se many lusty young Souldiers do, beg in the streets, when with a litle paines they could get them selues a way to liue.

Vincent.

But what shall the young Gentlemen souldiers doo, for (I thinke you know,) they haue no handycrafte to flie vnto.

Vallentine.

That I know well, neither would I with them to meddle with any Mecanycall manner of liuing, as a thing vtterly vnfit for Gentlemen. And therefore I will say & sith the number of those souldiers

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is small, in respect of ϕ other multitude, they might easely bee (or the greater part of them) receaued into Garrisons, and into the seruice of Noblemen, and others their good freendes, who knowinge them vertuous, would bee glad of their seruice, nay rather their company.

Vincent.

In Deede the number of Gentlemen, that follooe the war, is nothinge, in respect, of the multitude: and therfore either seruice, their owne industry, freends, or fortune may, (as you say continually) holde them in hart, and ability to liue.

Vallentine.

Doubt you not therof, specially, if they be honest, ly and thristely enclined: for some I haue seene so careles, as they neuer forecast what want may follooe. But finding them selues plentifully applied, do spend as much in one yeare, as fortune & freends haue gayned in many: therfore to prouide for them I meane not.

Vincent.

Yet one question moze, touchinge seruice: Are there not other seruices besides the warre, fit for a Gentleman, wherby hee may bee maintained or happely aduanced?

Vallentine.

Else the world were harde, though the warre ought to occupy the greatest number. For (if you forget not) I told you long since, that the profession of a Gentleman might bee either Armes or Learning: wherof, if hee hath any taste, with some wisdom and experience, he may not only serue in the house and affaires of Noblemen, and Officers, but also

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the Prince himself, yet if his learning be not in perfection, or excellent in some liberal science or lawes, I would wish hee added therunto Industry. In conclusion, what gentleman so euer hath in him either by nature or nourture, any vertue, singularity, or industrious knowledg, cannot want place either Martiall or Ciuill, either in his owne native Countrey, or els where. And though perhap you see many in Court euen by mere flattery, yea, some almost witlesse, win more wealth & worship, then many others, yet assure your selfe that vertue is the true way vnto them: & whē occasion of seruice doth happen, men of value & vertue bee those that shal stand their country in steede, and honoꝝ themselves.

Vincent.

Yet tell mee I pray you, which are the meanes, to enter into the course and order, to bee aduanced to some good, either Martiall or Ciuill, as you terme them?

Vallentine.

And that will I breefely tell you, let him that affecteth the warre, apply him self to serue, or followe some Noble man, or expert Captain, that is either in continuall seruice Martially, or that is likely to bee vsed at occasion, for most commonly wee loue those, and desire their good, whose studies and inclinations bee like vnto our owne. And such as fynd themselves disposed to learning, or any ciuil function, let the follow or serue those learned or wise persons, to whom the state hath geuen those authorities and trust.

Vincent.

Truly

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Truly you tell mee a way very likely, & reasonable, for at such time as the laste warre was in Fraunce, I meane at Newhauen, (where as you knowe who was the Generall,) I hard him commend the courage, and conducte, not onely of principall Captaynes, and Gentlemen, but euen of private Souldiers: yea many yeares, sithens that time, you shal yet vpon small occasion heare the like at his hand, as though their dooings, and the mennes names were wrotten in the inddest of his memozy.

Vallentine.

Well, now I perceauie you vnderstand me, and as this Noble man did and doth honoz men of his professiō, so Doubt you not, but likewise will others. And yet to acquite your tale, I remember, I haue heard him tell more then once, of one poore Souldier, who in rescuing, or reuenginge an other English man, assayled by two Almaynes with their slaugh Swoordes, slew them both with his obone hand, euen in his sight, which both wee, and euery man must say, was a part of a couragious Souldiour, and the General often speaking therof a signe, hee honozed his desert, and desired his aduancement.

Vincent.

But I pray you, is this the manner of other great men, to honour those that serue vnder them in their profession? I aske of you, because you liue in Courte, where are great personages, both in the knowledge of Armes and learning.

Vallentine.

Yea surely, though I cannot so perticulerly name the

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the matters: yet many Gentlemen there bee so studious and painefull, as both in Ciuill & Martiall affaires are very expert, and you shall heare great men that can iudge, much commend them, yea to the Prince, by whose bounty all sortes of vertuous men are aduanced.

Vincent.

I begin to rest satisfied, touching education: and am perswaded, (and so will perswade with other Gentlemen my freends) that they shall aduenture their Sonnes, more then the olde custome was, sith either by their aduenture, they shall liue and become vertuous, or (as wee Englishmen call it) of good qualities, or else die honestly in seekinge to make them selues fit for the Princes service, and their owne reputation.

Vallentine.

I am very glad that my poore reasons haue taken good effect, but therein I will challenge no more to my selfe, then I deserue: which is, that I haue put you in minde of that you either forgot, or els for want of leysure) neuer considered: For I acknowledge you of much more wisdom and iudgement then I am. Doth it please you to commaund mee any further service?

Vincent.

You will neuer leaue your Ceremonies (Maister Vallentine,) I know you are more wiser, and more expert then I am: but your naturall curtesy and modesty, doth moue you to yeeld more respect then is due vnto mee, I thanke you for it, and loth I am to seme tedious, els I entreat you to hold your promise: that is, to heare mee tell of our countrey commodities

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commodities & the content wherin we liue there:
For though I now yeelde, that the education of
Gentlemen is best abroad, yet mee thinkes their
continuall habitation should bee best in the Coun-
try at home.

Vallentine.

I hope you will not euer dwell in that opinion:
but I pray you begin to tell of your Countrey De-
lightes, and what is your manner of liuinge. I
will with all my hart, both patiently heare you, and
boldly (as you gaue leaue) tell you my minde, how
I allowe of your reasons.

Vincent.

I say then, that our Countrey habitation is more
godly, more honorable, more wholesome, more quiet,
more pleasant, and profitable, then it can be in any
Cittie or Burrough.

Vallentine.

Surely Sir, you haue spoken of great respects,
why you should loue the Countrey dwellinge, and
though I will beleue that the thing is (as you say)
yet sith wee are in dispute of the matter, you must
giue mee leaue to demaund either reasons or de-
monstracions, why indeed it is so.

Vincent.

I will proceede, as orderly as I can, and make
prooffe (as I hope) of all my speeche, & first because
I alleadged, that our Countrey liues, (I speake
without comparison) was more godly, then the life
of the Cittie: That opinion I conceaue, because I
finde there, much loue & charity, which as I take
it, are two speciall markes of godlines, and seldom
found in Citties, where euery man almost, lyueth

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to him selfe: For whereas Neighbours doo meete often without ceremony, chearing, and conuersing one with an other, without disdayne, or enuie, (as wee do in the Countrey,) there I iudge is loue, and good neighbourhood: Likewise where hospitalitie is liberally kept, and many Children and Seruautes daily fed, with all other cominers: there (as I also thinke) is much charitie: in the Towne it seemeth the contrary, there is no meetinge of neighbours, without special conuitation, no salutation, without much respect, & ceremony, no number of Seruaunts, but those that for necessary vses are imployable. So as in brieffe, there seemeth to bee litle loue amonge equals, and lesse liberali- ty to inferiours: Whereupon I inferre, that in Cities and Townes, is lesse plenty of both these properties: (I meane loue and charity,) then is with vs in the Countrey. Now say you (M. Vallentine,) haue I spoken well or no?

Vallentine. You speake euer exceeding well, yet I pray you with patience, heare what may be sayd to the contrary. It seemeth that ceremonies of ciuility, doth make you doubt of loue among town inhabitants, and so consequently there wanteth some parte of that godly good will you finde, or imagine to be in the Countrey. Truly Sir, if you were as well acquainted in any Cittie, as you are in the Shier, where you abide: you should finde the same affection among men, that there are, some more & some lesse of acquaintance and freendship amongst these men, as they bee more or lesse a kinne, allied, or of cons-

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conformitie, or disformitie in disposition. for there are few men so vniuersally courteous or kinde, as make account of all men alike (which so beeing) bringeth mee to beleene, that when good freendes are disposed to meete, it is better to bee eyther invited, or occasioned, then (as they doo in the Countrey) hand ouer head resort to a gentlemans house, where (because the Maister doth not make choise of his guesstes, sometimes very straungers do there meete, yea, other whiles meare enemyes, which (as you can conceaue) must needes marre all the myrth. And if any of these guesstes doo happen to receaue lesse curtesy, or entertainment then the other, hee falleth forthwith into offence or ielously agaynst the Maister of the house, and holde him more then halfe his foe. Which displeasure could not happen, if no man would resort thither vnbidden: Besides that, (if you marke it well) when a knot of good and famplier freendes bee met, to make merry, and talke, (as true freendes often doo) merrily, and liberally: if but one extraordinary man (none of this troupe) doth hap to come in) you shall finde all the mirth marred, and their free speeche conuerted to respecte, yea, (shall I tell all) that guesta vnlooked for, maketh one to many: for the number of lodgings. And so the Maister of the house, is driuen eyther to forsake his owne head, or discharge his vnbidden guest.

Vincent.

It is true that you say, that these vnacquainted guesstes do occasion alteration of cheare, and I my selfe in my pooze house, haue diuerse times beene

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so haunted with guests, as I was driven out of mine owne bed, to lye at some Tennants house of mine, for a night or two: Notwithstanding, I toke it for no great trouble, so long as my freends found themselves content and welcome.

Vallentine.

But Sir, are you sure they were all your freendes?

Vincent.

Yea surely, I so thinke, though some of them I had neuer seene before that day.

Vallentine.

Doo you not thinke you haue as true freendes as any of these haunt feastes, that dwell far from you, or that do visite you at their occasions, or your owne conuitation?

Vincent.

Yea truly, and my trouble the lesse, if wee were lesse haunted, but the Country custome is, to bid euery man welcome, and the more resort he hath, the more is the Maister of the house honored, and the more authority a Gentleman hath in the shier, the more is the resort vnto him.

Vallentine.

Merely, I so thinke, for as his true freends do seeke him for loue and honour, so are there others that do it for flattery or feare: Thus you see how easely you may bee deceaued in the loue of your Neighboures, and that haunting your house, may bee for other cause or occasion, as well as loue.

Vincent.

Sir, it may so bee right well, but yet you can say litle agaynst mee, touching our liberalitie and charitie,

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charity, which wee vse in the Country, keepinge our gates open for all men, and feeding many tall fellowes to attend vpon vs: also relying all Beggars, that aske at our gates, with money, meat, or bothe.

Vallentine.

I am loth to speak against these customes, because they are the cheefe commendacions of the Countrey: and yet, sith I haue already my pardon and lycence to say what I lust, against you, let mee aske what sortes of men, doo enter commonly within your gates, which (as you say) are neuer shut?

Vincent.

There doo resort vnto vs of all sortes, I meane Noble men, Gentlemen, Yeomen, our Neighbors, & many others, that either haue occasion to come thither for busines, or passe that way for their owne affaires or pleasures.

Vallentine.

These mennes presence in your houses, do rather honor you, the more that thereby you be charitable. But what bee these tall fellowes of whom you speake?

Vincent.

They bee our seruicingmen, that attend vpon our Table, and follooe vs in the streetes, when wee bee at London, or any other great Towne, and furnish our Halles at home.

Vallentine.

But I pray you, haue they no other quallities, wherin to serue you, or doo you vse them, for no other purpose, then attend on your Table, or follooe you as shadowes.

¶ iii

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent.

Surely no, neither is it the manner to offer them any labour or drudgery, for therof they would take great scozne, beeing cūnly personages, & commonly the sonnes of some honest Yeomen, or farmers of the Countrey.

Vallentine.

Then can I compare them to Monckes, and fat Friers, who vnder pretence of prayer, wanne themselves a lasie life, and liued vpon others laboure: So these men, beeing called men of seruice, do nothing lesse then serue: I doo not therefore accompte you charitable in feeding of such idle folke: for that is sayd to bee spent, or geuen charitably, which is bestowed on beggers, the blinde, and lame, and such like: but not on these sturdy fellows, & needles seruantes.

Vincent.

Doo you so say Sir: were it for the worship of a Gentleman, hauing good lande and reuenues to keepe no more seruantes, then (as they doo in Cities) those that for their necessary vles they must needes imploy: If wee Gentlemen should so doo, how should wee furnish our Halles: how should wee bee ready for quarrellers: or how should our Wines bee wayted on when they ride a broade, as commonly their custome is, cheefely in Soumer, the faire season and hunting time:

Vallentine.

In good sooth, you haue now sayd much, but nothing to purpose, for though it hath been a custome to keepe these needlesse men, yet the custome being not good, or not profitable, it ought to be banished.

Among

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Among the lubberly Monckes, and fat headed Friers, your Halles will best shew their good proportion, when they be not ouer ful: your quarrels would be performed, with your owne persons, and your wiues (beeinge well bled) should bee no common huntresse, nor gadders abroad, though I deeme not, such hath bin the vse that Ladies, and gentle women, (euen in their Husbandes absence) should ride a hauking, or huntinge.

Vincent. If this custome of keeping great numbers of seruantes had not beene good, and commendable, how happeneth it, that neither lawes hath forbidden it, nor experience hath not disprooued it.

Vallentine. I will tell you how (in mine opinion,) this comber some and vnprofitable custome came, which in deede (as I thinke) at the first was very necessary, but now cleane contrary.

Vincent.

How can a thing bee good once, and after prove euill, cheefely a custome so long bled.

Vallentine.

Yes surely Sir, and you see many lawes or statutes made with good consent, and vpon iust occasion, which after wardes become either so vnprofitable, or so seuer, as by like consent they be annulled, as you your self, (euen in your owne age) might haue marked: Likewise would customes which become vnprofitable, or vnfit for the comon welth be bled. And touching our matter of many idle seruants I thinke, that at such tyme, as this Realm was deuided into sundry principalities, and therby continually quarrell.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

quarrel and discord grewe among the Princes, and their sundry subiectes of necessity the Noble men, and Gentlemen were forced to keepe the greatest number of Seruautes they were able: Not for the purposes you alleadge, but rather (as a Ward) to defend them from the fury of their enemies: either els this custome began in y^e time of the great ciuill warres, which continued many yeares, and was (as you know) called the Barrons warre. In these times, it was not onely not folly, but rather great wisdom to haue numbers of seruantes, and followers, though with charge, to attend vpon Gentlemen for their defence: but had they liued in continuall quiet, free from ciuill discession, I suppose, they would not haue continued those Garrisons for their bayne glory, or their senceles ambition, (as I may call it.)

Vincenc. *Vincenc. I am (as you say) of the*
In good earnest, you speake reasonably.

Vallentine.

Dea Sir, I can bringe one other matter to your mind, wherof you may rather gather, y^e this peaceable Realme, hath been in times heretofore greatly trauelled, and the Nobility in much perrill: for if you consider wel the sights, & manner of their most ancient houses, you shall finde they were all (for the most part) either Castelles or houses trenched, or walled about: as buildinges, made rather for defence, then other respect, either of plesure or profite. Wherefore seeinge they did choose an habitation for strength and defence, it is very like they also accompanied them selues, as strongly as they were able. And I dare warrant you that in those
Dayes,

Cynile and vnciuile life.

Dapes, though they did (as wee do) entertaine many seruants, yet was their consideration diuerse from ours. For as wee regarde chiefly the countines of the person, so did they study to take them that were expert in the warre, and weapon of that age: as Dikes, Bowes, Swordes, and sheeldes (for shot, I gesse, they vsed not.) Also they made choice (as I likewise suppose) of men that were hardy and strong, because, (hauinge little, or no vse of Artillary or small shot,) the cheefe seruice consisted vpon force: both in defence of their Castels or houses, and also in the feld fight.

Vincent. All this while (I confesse) you reason very probably: but now (thanks to god, and good gouernment) wee haue no neede, as they had, and yet haue we as good reuenues or more then the noble or Gentlemen of those ages, and enjoy them more quietly: why should wee not then keepe them still, to attend vpon vs for our honour & worship? And they are not altogether so vnqualified, or idle, as you are perswaded.

Vallentine. Then I pray you, enforme mee further of their vertues or qualities, sith I haue plainly tolde you, for what cause the custome of Seruingmen began, and of what condicion they were.

Vincent. Among our Yeomen, you shal finde some (yea very many) well brought vp, and expert in sundry seemingly, and necessary knowledges, without which they cannot (as they doo) serue a noble man, or gentleman: and not to holde you in longer expectation

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

what they are. You shall know that our seruinge men, besides that they al, (or the greatest number) can well and decently weare their garments, and cheefely their huiery coates, their swordes & bucklers, they can also carue very cumly at your table, as to vnlase a Conny, to raise a Capon, frompe a Crane, and so likewise handle all other dishes, and meates that are set on the board before you: some of them also can wrestle, leape well, run, & daunce. There are also of those, that can shoote in longe Bowes, crosse Bowes, or handgunne: Yea there wanteth not some that are both so wise, and of so good audacitie, as they can, and doo (for lacke of better company) entertaine their Maister with table talke, bee it is pleasure to speake either of Hawkes, or houndes, fishing, or fowling, sowing or grassinge, ditchinge or hedginge, the dearth or cheapenes of grayne, or any such matters, wherof Gentlemen commonly speake in the Countrey: bee it either of pleasure or profit, these good fellowes know sumwhat in all.

Vallentine.

Merely syr, you haue told mee newes, I would faine know more of these men, and of their feates, I will no more say vertues, for that sinels to much of beyond seas.

Vincent.

If you knew, what honour or worship these can doo, to a Noble man in his Countrey house, you would rather giue a good seruingman fortie pounds wages, then want his seruice some one day: I meane, eyther when you haue store of straungers (for so wee call our guesstes,) or els when

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

When you are from home: for in your absence, hee cannot onely see thinges in good order, but also entertayne them, first in the Hall, nexte in your Parlour, (or if you keepe that manner or estate) in your great Chamber, as a right good Gentleman, and some times a Lorde, may bee content (in their Maisters absence) to take all in good part: Hea to tell you all, some heires, (I speake playnely in this place) bee so simple, as their seruungmen, by their counsell, in prouidinge, foreseeinge, entertayninge and sparinge, doo maintayne their honours and worships.

Vallentine.

You speake well, for these sortes of seruantes, I lust not yet a while to reply; I pray you say on. Are these all, that his folly, & foolish ambition doth entertaine? you must not tell what I say.

Vincent.

I am sure you speake merrily: but yet I will proceede, these sortes of men bee the most number: But besides them wee haue Subseruungmen, (as I may call them,) seldome in sight: As Bakers, Brewers, Chamberlaines, Wardrobers, Faulkners, Hunters, Horsekeepers, Lackeies: and (for the most parte) a naturall foole, or Jester to make vs sporte: Also a Cooke, with a Scullin or two, Launderers, Hynes, and Hogheards, with some other silly slaues, as I know not how to name them.

Vallentine.

I thought I had knowen all & retinue, of a Noble mans, or Gent. house. But now I finde, I do not, for it semeth a whole Army or Camp: and yet, Hal

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

I tell you truely what I thinke) this last munber though it bee least, is the more necessary sorte of seruants, because these serue necessity, and the other superfluity, or (I may call it) ambition: But altogeather they make a world: for my parte, I had rather haue a litle with quiet, then a great Deale with such confusion: for though money and prouision bee plentiful in the Countrey, yet spending, and eating, deuoureth all: and for ought I conceane, there is no great charity in feedinge of many of these men, who eate much, and get litle.

Vincent.

I must confesse it true, that our charge is great, and some of them are also proude, and euill natured people, as were it not for their Parents sakes (who bee our good freendes, or Tennants) wee would many times discharge our houses of them: But partly for those respects, and partly for feare, beeing out of seruite, they should fall into offence of law, wee kepe them, though to our great charge and discontent: for well you know, it were great pittie to see a tall fellow to chynie a Gibbet.

Vallentine.

Euen so it were in Deed: and yet, if you hap to haue in your ground a fayre great Tree, that yeelds you no fruit: but with the bowes therof, ouer Droppeth an Aker of grasse, which therby (I meane for want of sunne shine) cannot prosper: were it not better to hebe downe this tree, then for the onely beauty therof, suffer it to grow to your continuall losse and hinderance

Vincent.

Yes mary would I, but to what purpose would you

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

you apply this Parable :

Vallentine.

I can compare a cumly vnqualified seruant to this Tree, for if hee can none other good, but shew forth his proper person, nor intendeth to be more profitable, it maketh no great matter, what becomineth of him: cheefely, if hee bee vn honest, and of euil condition. Let not that therfore comber your conscience: but a gods name prefer your profit beefore the releefe or maintenance of such ydle folke.

Vincent.

In very deed syr, I haue heard of learned Clerks, that God and nature hath made nothing in vaine: wherupon I iudge, that men who can no good, the fault is rather their owne, then natures: yet doth it sumwhat stay in my stomack, to discharge a lusty felloe, though his conditions bee but skantly commendable. And the reason is because hee becometh a house well.

Vallentine.

If that bee all, that bindeth you to your charge, I will tell you how you shall better cheape furnish your house, then of these persons, of whom you haue no other vse, then to looke on them, because they are cumly.

Vincent.

As how, I pray you: for considering the small seruice they doo, and yet are men healthy & sound. I suppose it is no great charity to keepe them.

Vallentine.

What I meane to tell you, is this: that you were best to cause al their pictures to be drawen in their

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best array, and hange them bp in your Hall, and you shall finde them as seemely furniture, as the men them selues, and yet they will put you to no cost, eyther in meate, inoney, or cloth.

Vincent.

You speake merrily, but yet in good faith reasonably and truely, for sith these men bee sound and stronge, and will notwithstanding bee ydle, I beleene to keepe them, (cheefely with euill condicions) is no great charitie, and hauinge no seruice at their handes, I cannot maintaine reasonably, that they are profitable.

Vallentine.

I am very glad, that you are perswaded to see, that many thinges vsed in the Country, & accompted godly, bee not euer as they seeme.

Vincent.

In deede, I yeelde vnto you, and had I considered so much a dozen yeares since, it would haue saued mee two thousande poundes of victuals, that these good fellowes haue deuoured: But tell mee touching my next allegation, honour and woꝝship.

Vallentine.

To that I say, that your honor or woꝝship, resteth not either in your Countrey aboade, or keeping of many seruaunts, but rather in your owne vertue. For though wise men for curtesy, & fooles through simplicitie, doo salute you with reuerence, yet must you not thinke your selfe the more honorable, vnlesse you be in deede vertuous; I meane wise, valyaunt, iust, temperate, liberall, affable, modest, and in somme, indued with all sortes (or at the least

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least wise) with some vertuous inozrall and commendable condicions, wherby you may be known, and at occasions vsed, in the seruice of our Prince and Country, either Martially or Ciuilly, for those bee occupations of all nobility, in which word is included all sortes of Gentlemen, aswell those that beare greatest Tytles, as they that haue lesse.

Vincent.

I finde it far otherwise then you say, for albeit a man bee (as few are) in possession of all these vertues, which (you say) doth onely make men honourable: yet if hee bee no Householder, nor keeper of seruants, you see that in his Countrey, neither the neighbours will loue him, nor y people do him reuerence.

Vallentine.

I did not, nor will not speake agaynst householdinge, nor yet haue I inuayed agaynst keping of honest and necessary seruantes: but agaynst the superfluitie in either: for I confesse that hospitallity, bee it in Towne or Country, is good and godly, and also a testimony of liberality, which is a great vertue, and very commendable. But therewith bee content that I tell you, that though all good housekeepers bee the more honourable, yet euery one that can not, or doth not kepe house, or seruant, must therfore bee disdained or holden vile.

Vincent.

I know not what ye mean by disdain or vilety, but I am sure, be a man neuer so vertuous, vnles hee be a housekeeper, no mā wil in y country resort vnto him,

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him, or if hee walke in the Cittie without seruants attending on him, no man wil put off his cap or do him reuerence: how can then such a man bee honorable?

Vallentine.

Yes, yes sir, as much (or perhaps) a great Deale more, then hee that spendes a thousand poundes a yeare in his house, or hath in the Towne twenty men to follow him. For though a vertuous man doth walke alone for lacke of abillity and riches, yet (if hee bee knowne) hee shalbe honored: though (for want of seruants) hee seemeth not to every one, that hee is honorable, because it is the vertue of minde, and not the gifts of fortune, that honor is due vnto.

Vincent.

Hee thinkes, you speake wel: and I must needs allow that a vertuous man (though hee bee poore) deserveth to bee respected, and honored: yet experience teacheth the contrary, that men of Title and wealth, are euer honored, and the poorer sorte (though full fraught with vertue) doo passe without reputation: As for example, when we Gentle men of the Countrey doo reason, (as many times wee doo) of Noble men, Knights, and all other degrees, comparinge some one to an other of the same callinge: we accompt him more or lesse honorable or worshipfull, as hee is more or lesse landed or wealthy.

Vallentine.

I doo not vnderstand you, I pray you tell mee, as how you make your comparison.

¶

Cyviile and vnciuile life

Vincent. If there bee two Lordes in our Countrey, and
one hath twenty hundred pounds in reuenue,
and the other but fifteene, wee say, hee that hath
the more liuinge is the more honourable Lorde.
And likewise, if two knightes, the one hauinge a
thousand pounde rent, the other not half so much,
wee say they bee both men of worſhippe, but not
worſhipfull alike, but the one more, the other leſſe:
And ſo from degree to degree, wee make our esti-
mation: Alſo you ſhall ſee it as a rule, taken and
followed amonge Gentlemen, that hee that hath
leſſe liuinge, giueth place to him that hath more:
though for byrth and vertue, hee much better. The
ſame guiſe their good wines uſe in the Countrey:
for a rich Laboyers wiſe, or the wiſe of a luſtye
younge Franchlin, that is lately become a Gentle-
woman (Gra mercé, Monſer le Harraule) will make
no ceremony I warrant you to ſit downe and take
place before any poore Gentlewoman, bee ſhee ne-
uer ſo vertuous, wel bozne or married to a Gentle-
man in deede, of a good race, vnleſſe hee hap to
haue either authority in the Countrey, or good
plenty of liuinge.

Vallentine.

I doo now vnderſtand well, how the worlde
walketh, and am ſorry for it, ſithe that which is
without the man ſhould more honour him, then
that is within him. This eſtimacion I muſt (not-
withſtanding that the multitude do allowe it) vtter-
ly reiecte as falſe and vile.

Vincent.

And why: will you oppoſe your ſelf to the opinion
of

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of so many: I dare say, if you come into the country and aske of this matter, I warrant you they will say (without exception) the wealthier man, is the more honest man: and the greater landed Gentleman, the better man of worship.

Then by that reason, my Lorde Mayors Horse, is a worthier beast, then Maister Recorders Hoyle, because hee carrieth a richer burden: for that in your accompt, thinges without vs bee those that honour the person. But this folly and false iudgement in honour, commeth of ignorance, and ignorance proceedeth from your manner of life in the Country, where in deede, you neuer attende to know what doth become you, but what may enrich you, wherin you are far short of the Lawyer, and Ploughman, the one hauing a trade to ketch copie, by his counsell and crafte, the other by his labour and lucke. You in the meane season (though in troth, attentive enough to heare of profit:) yet mixing your thursty Desire with mirth and solace, as hauking, and hunting, can neuer attaine to that wealth, which they do, and yet you will yeeld them honour. Certainly, if you had beene traded vp in the Court or Towne, you would cast an other accompt of this matter, and bee not so barely minded, as to way the worth of men, by the rente of their landes or the money in their purses.

Vincent.

I did not say, that this was my iudgement, but the opinion almost vniuersall, for if one man in the Countrey do hold your minde, I dare say you shall finde an hundred to incounter him.

Vallentine.

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Vallentine.
It may so bee (cheefely in this corrupt age,) but
for my parte, though twise a hundred men did en-
counter my iudgement, I care not, for I am sure
there is not one wise man among two hundred.

Vincent.
Well, I am content to peeke rather to reason
then the multitude, and beleene with you, for men
are more or lesse honourable, as they are more or
lesse vertuous, not measuring them (as the multy-
tude doth) as they are layed in Subtedy bookes.

Vallentine.
I thanke you syr, for dooing mee such fauour, as
to concurre with mee in opinion. I pray you pro-
ceede in the rest of your countrey commendacions.

Vincent.
Then must I speake of the holsomnesse of our
dwellinges, which without contradiction is much
more, then your abroad in Citties, Court, or towne
where the ayre is commonly straught, & the con-
course of people great: which two thinges must
needes breede contagion and sicknes, there want-
teth also commodity for exercise, which is a thinge
very necessary to maintaine health, we may at our
willes walke, & ronne, hauke, and hunt, our feelds
beeing spacious, and our game plentifull. All which
thinges you want in Court & Cittie, or with great
difficulty you haue them.

Vallentine.
Every comoditie beareth about it, some dis-
comodity: yet if I lust to reason, so needles a pro-
bleme, I could say, that as Courtes and Cities, by
reason of the concourse of people become oft times

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vnpleasauntly aired, yet the sight is of moze importance and worthier consideration. For it may bee that a perticuler house in the country, (as commonly all olde buildinges were) bee as lobe, and vnholsoonly placed, as any Cittie, for hereof was greater aduise in sytinge it. Also therein are great prouisions to preuent corruption and sicknes: the people also beeing therein, are moze neate and ciuill then they bin in the countrey: For cleynnes is a speciall preseruatiue against infection, yea, if you did, or could know the whole number of people that did inhabit London, or any other cittie, comparinge them with as many of the Countrey, and marke how many died weekly of either, you should commonly see the thing would fall out indifferent, though at some one time died moze Citizengs, yet at some other you should finde, as great plagues and sicknesse, among the Masse of your countrey folke. And for your exercises (which I confesse are honest and good,) I will speake of them hereafter when you hap, (as you haue promised) to praise the pleasure of your countrey dwelling: Let it then suffice, that touchinge the good or euill ayre and holesomnes, or vnholesomnes of our diuerse dwellinges, I refer you to the sighte of the places, and leaue them to your wisdom without comparinge. Wee liue here, till wee can no longer, and you till you die: some are very healthy, and some euersickly: some haue much of the one, and some of the other. Euery man to his fortune.

Vincent.

Then say, let that bee, as bee may, for I finde in euery ayre, some liue longe, & some lesse, though
few

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few so longe as they would: but now let vs com-
mon of our quiet.

Vallentine.

With all good will, I am content to heare you,
say what you lust, for it will please mee much, to
know of your quiet life.

Vincent.

Understand you (good Maister Vallentine) that our
houses bee, (or at the leasse) the most auncient of
them, sited in places remote, and far from any Citee,
Burrough, (or almost) Village, wherby wee
want those noysome noyses of cryinge and carriages,
which necessarily the Citizens must abide.

Our gates bee not euery handwile knocked, for
either they are all day open, or that our Porters
bee still present to let men in and out, wee are not
much troubled with sendinge too and fro, for our
provisions: because euery Gentleman, if hee bee a
man of any reasonable lands, and forecast, he hath
about home, vpon his owne Demeanes, all sorts of
dictuall for horse and man, and likewise fowel: So
as in conclusion, I tell you hee needeth not to dis-
quiet him selfe, either in fence or wit, vnlesse it bee
some one ambitious Gentleman amonge many,
who (because he would seeme more venorable then
the rest) wilbe richly apparrelled, and fill his Sel-
ler with Wines of sundry sortes, which provision
indeed wee haue not without sending to London,
or some great Citee.

Vallentine.

I perceauie (as partly I did before) that your
houses bee far from company, which in the respect
you haue spoken, are the more quiet, and yet mee

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thinks,

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

thinks, I would not want the comforte of neighbours for the quiet you haue tolde vs, which neuerthelesse may bee enough: And wheras you allege that your provisions at hande doth acquite you of trouble, which wee haue in the towne, therein I iudge you deceaue your selfe. For albeit corne groweth on your owne demeane, and your wood likewise, also your cattell and all countrey foode: yet dare I warrant you before such time as the same provisions be fit for your vse (I meane, your Lande manured, your corne reaped, your woods cut downe, & all thinges ready, and brought home as they must bee: your trouble and disquiet wil be much more then ours, that sende twise a day from our house to the Market in the towne where wee dwell.

Vincent.

In deede I had forgotten, that wee haue much adoo in seed season, to set forth our Plowes, in harvest to reape our corne, and towards winter to lay in our fowell: But all these thinges yet wee haue without money, which you haue not.

Vallentine.

Without money? But for by your fauour, not without cost, and other whiles wee haue them better cheape then you, though they growe on your owne ground, as I will hereafter perswade when I shall answer you, touchinge the profite of the Countrey, which is one of your allegations,

Vincent.

Then do I longe much to heare, yet let mee tell you one touch more of our quiet, which is our authority, for a number of vs bee Iustices, some of
Quoram,

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Quoram, and many of the Peace, some Shreues
some Surueyors, some Elchetoys, some Feoda-
ries, and such like, others also, though in no office,
yet beeinge descended of wealthy and worshipfull
houses, are much respected, worshipped and feared
of the people: But if the best of these remayned in
Court (without office there) or in þe Citty or town,
the meanest Marchaunt, or sylliest Shoemaker,
woulde scantly respecte vs, and none at all feare
vs.

Vallentine.

No: wee them: and yet shall I speake plainly,
I had rather bee worshipped or respected of one
chuil or wise man (such as liue in Courts or townes)
then of one hundred Countrey loutes, that either
doo salute you for flattery, or honour you ignorant-
ly: And lothe would I bee, to finde you so grosse,
as to thinke that among twise tenne of those plea-
beyall sortes, there bee two of iudgement enough
to know what honour is due to one, more then to
an other.

Vincent.

And why so say: yes I warrant you that they
vnderstand, what Noble man or Gentleman doo
dwell neare them, and what honour is due to ey-
ther: Neyther are they so ignorant, or vnciuil, but
if they hap to meet any such well apparrelled per-
son, in his worshipfull garments, or with a fayre
cheyne about his necke, the countrey loutes (as
you terme them) can so much good manner, as to
put off their hats, and if the Gentleman be vnaue-
in deede, they will also doo him other reverence.

Vallentine.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vallentine.

Not so, but I thinke verely they will often do reuerence to the Gentleman's cheyne, or his braue coate, which curtesie men of iudgement do not regard, for they would be honoured for them selues and their vertue, and though no man doth commit Adultery to their cheynes, or garmentes they force litle: which error I haue seen not only comon people to commit, but (by your leaue,) many of your worshippingfull inhabitantes, who by reason, you are continually abydinge in the Countrey, you know neither the persons of the Nobility, nor yet the very Magistrates that gouerne. Wherby (when happely ye bee called before them,) you know neither what difference to make, either of their persons or dignities. The like simplicity I haue seen in your Wiues: and yet in them more excuseable, (because they may not modestly without your leaues, see so much of the world:) who when they come to Court, do neither know the gentlewomen from the Ladys, nor scantly the Queene her self. What Gentleman or Gentlewoman would not be ashamed of such ignorance, and wisteth not rather that he had spent twise two hundred pounds then to shew him selfe to bee such a one as I haue tolde you.

Vincent.

In very deed, (Maister Vallentine,) it is meete for euery Gentleman to know, the person of his Prince: and likewise of the Magistrates, (or at the least, of the most of them) and surely such knowledge is not gotten without comminge to Court, or places where they resort: Notwithstanding if
all

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all Gentlemen should follow the Court or dwell in London, how should the countrey bee gouerned? For without Iustices of Peace and officers there, the people would be out of order, and the Princes seruice must needs bee neglected.

Vallentine.

Although I take vpon mee to remember Gentlemen, of their grosse ignorance and lacke of ciuility, yet is not my intent to traine them all their whole liues, out of their countrey, neyther would I wish them, (cheefely Officers, & ministers of the Princes in Iustice) to remaine alwaies: either in court or Cittie: But to resort thither at such age & times, as hee is either not imployed, or not needed, which if hee did (I am most assured) his seruice woulde prooue the more worth, and him self a great deale the more ciuill: If it please you to consider that if any important seruice bee committed to the Iustices of any Shier, you shall see the same (or the cheefe trust therof) allotted to men knownen to the Prince or the Councell, and not to others. And if after the sayd seruice bee performed and any report therof must bee made, if a man do come to do that office (beeing before knownen to the Prince or Magistrates, you shall finde hee shall be heard with more respecte, and dispatched with more speede, then if any other vnknownen, or vnskillfull person had beene presented vnto them.

Vincent.

No doubt of that, but would you haue all Gentlemen thus finely brought vp, and that there should no Iustices of Peace remaine in the Countrey, mee thinkes that were exceeding strange:

H

Vallentine.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vallentine.

I did wish indeed, that all Gentlemen were wel brought vp, and resorters to Court or Cittie, yet I saide not that they should ever abandon the countrey, cheefely those that are imployed there.

Vincent.

Then it seemeth that you would haue all the rest to bee Courtiers and Tobones men, how should any of them then aspire to the offices of the Countrey, when there they are not abidinge.

Vallentine.

My meaning is not to entice them all to Court, or to Cittie from their naturall shier: But that such (as would not doo them selues that great good) that at the least they would some times, & cheefely in their youth, abide in their cheefe towne or cittie of their countrey, where they may conuerse with a people more ciuill, then the pooze villaines, and bee notwithstanding at hand to take office (if it be layed on them :) Also if they bee in office already, they dwell there fitly enough to exercise the same. But by this you haue saide, it seemeth you are, or faine would bee an Officer in your countrey.

Vincent.

Nay not so syr, but yet if it bee layed vpon mee, I must not refuse to serue my Prince.

Vallentine.

I warrant you syr, if you bee no better acquainted in Court then you seeme, nor no better learned then I, you shall neuer bee troubled with office, vnlesse some freend of yours doo recominend you, for so obscure education as you speake, will slowly prefer you.

Vincent.

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Vincent.
I confesse our preferment is slow, and yours (bee it spoken with patience) is not ouer swift. For if you marke well it is much better to smell of the law, then of the Launce.

Vallentine.
By my fay syr, you haue hit mee home, for truely I wish that those sauiours did yeeld thurst alike. But how happy are you, for whom fortune hath so well prouided, as you neede neither to taste the paines of the one, nor the perrill of the other. But Basta. Let vs returne to the matter, & tell mee how ye are perswaded of my spech touching your quiet.

Vincent.
Exceedingly well: And must acknowledge that in manuringe our owne groundes, wee offer our selues much disquiet and care, not becomminge a Gentleman. Also in consideration of our strangenes to the Court, wee are made the lesse meete for gouernment, & not to knowe the person of our Prince is a thinge that amazeth a Gentleman much. I yeelde therfore vnto your reasons, and the rather because you will neither binde vs continually to Court, nor London: But that wee may both visite our owne countrey houses, and yee make cheefe abode in our shier towne, as places to keepe vs in that ciuilitie, is behoouefull.

Vallentine.
You vnderstande mee right, and you shall by your dwellinge in those Townes, much enriche the people, that they thereby enabled maye make their buyldinges the more beautifull and commodious, so that in one acte you woork

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

two good effectes, which are to make your selues
ciuill, and enritch the towne.

Vincent.

But how say you to our pleasures and pleasant
exercises of the countrey: for that was the next I
promised to praise. I trust you will allow of them,
and commend your owne coldly, for I thinke they
be colde enough in deede.

Vallentine.

Well syr, I perceave you haue a colde conceit of
of our Courtly pleasures, but what of that: tel vs
yours I pray you.

Vincent.

Wee haue in troth so great store of them, as there
is no time of the yeare, no houre of the day, nor
no weather, but wee haue a pastime to entertaine
vs with.

Vallentine.

As how: for Gods sake, say on.

Vincent.

In the spring time (and cheefely in Lent) wee
fish the Carpe, the Pike, the Breaine, the Roche,
and the Peele, as good meates in the eatinge, as
good sportes in the ketching. In sommer we dare
the Larke with Hobbies, and ketch them with Day
Nettes. In haruest when corne is done, our
Sparkaukes bee ready to kill the Partridge, the
Quayle, and Rayle. In winter wee hauke the
Heron, the Feasant, the Ducke, the Teale: And
in breefe, all sortes of volary. The like pleasures
wee can shew you vpon the ground, (for you must
conceave that all these fowles doo fly,) and bee it
your will to hunt with your eye or eare, wee are
ready

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

ready for you as if you please to see with the eye,
wee course the Stagge, the Bucke, the Roa, the
Doa, the Hare, the Foxe, and the Badger: Or if
you had rather haue some Musicke to content your
care, out goes our Dogges, our houndes (I should
haue saide) with them wee make a heauenly noise
or cry, that would make a Dead man reuiue, and
run on foote to heare it.

Vallentine.

But by your leaue, if you wisht your owne good
father, whose Heire you are, would rise from death
to life, you had rather neuer heare hound, then
trouble his rest.

Vincent.

Uery well syr, you thinke I would bee lothe to
trace my fathers new steppes vpon his olde land,
I speake like a hunter, and to tell you plainly, as
I neuer desired his death: So were it no reason
I should put him to paines, of receauing his arre-
rage of rents, which I haue spent these half dozen
yeares past.

Vallentine.

Much good may it doo you, and let him rest,
(God giue him rest :) But tell mee if all these plea-
sures, wherof you tolde, bee they vsed by day or
night, in faire weather, or shoule

Vincent.

In good sooth (Maister Vallentine) either you are
wonderously pleasaunt, and disposed, or els very
ignorant in Gentlemens quallities, that will aske
me these vain questions: For every man knoweth
that the day time is fittest for all sportes, and like-
wise the faire weather.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vallentine.
Ah syr, I pray you pardon mee, for I confesse
I am vnckillfull, yet vnlesse I bee much Deceaued,
I haue hard hounds barke by night, & haue seene
foulers ketch Woodcockes in colde weather.

Vincent.
In deede it may bee, you haue hard sumtymes
hounds yorne, (for so you ought to terme it) by
night, and I suppose the winter weather and hard,
is fittest for ketching of Woodcockes in deede.

Vallentine.
Well, I am glad, you know therby I haue hard,
and seene sumwhat worthy a Gentleman: I pray
you now tell vs your pastimes, Destined for fowle
weather, & how many be of them, besides ketching
of Woodcockes.

Vincent.
I assure you many, and those diuerse (in which I
will include our exercises also: but because you de-
maund of our fowle wether pastimes, I wil speake
of them first.

Vallentine.
You are full of memory & order, I pray you say on.

Vincent.
In fowle weather, we send for some honest neigh-
bours, if happely wee bee with our wiues alone at
home (as seldome we are) and with them we play
at Dice, and Cardes, sorting our selues accordinge
to the number of Players, and their skill, some to
Ticktacke, some Lurche, some to Irish game, or
Dublets: Other sit close to the Cardes, at Post &
Paire, at Ruffe, or Colchester Triumpe, at Hack
or Haw: yea, there are some euer so fresh game-
sters,

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

sters, as wil bare you cōpany at Nouen Quinke,
at Faring, Trey trip, or one & thirty, for I warrant
you, we haue right good fellowes in the countrey,
sumtimes also (for swift of sports, you know is de-
lectable) we fall to slide thriste, to Penny pick, & in
winter nights, we vse certaine Christmas games
very proper, & of much agilitie, wee want not also
pleasant mad headed knaues, y bee properly lear-
ned, and will reade in diuerse pleasant booke, and
good Authoꝝ: As Sir Guy of VVarwicke, y foure
Sonnes of Amon, the Ship of Fooles, the Budget of
Demaundes, the Hundreth merry Tales, the Booke
of Ryddles, and many other excellent writers, both
witty and pleasaunt. These pretty and pithy mat-
ters, do some times recreate our mindes, cheefely
after longe sittinge, and losse of money. In faire
weather when we haue straungers, or holly daies
(for els in the day time wee attend our thrist) wee
exercise our selues in shooting at Buttes, Bricks,
Roauers and Robones: We cast the Bar or sledge,
Leape or Run, if our ages and condicion bee fit for
such exercise, els (beeing aged) wee chat at home,
and talke of Turreyn, and Torny, or some other no-
table war, wherin wee serued our Prince: Or if
wee haue cōtinually dwelt at home, & bin Iustices
of Peace, we accōpt what graue Judges & gentle-
men we haue seene sit on our Bench, & with what
eloquence we haue (when it was our turpe) geuen
the charge.

Vallentine.

Certainly syz, you haue told mee of many proper
pleasures, and honest exercises: But with all let
mee aske you what Neighboures these compani-
ons bee, of whom you haue tolde mee.

Vincent

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent.

They are our honest neighbours, Yeomen of the Countrey, and good honest fellowes, dwellers there about: as Grasers, Butchers, Farmers, Drouers, Carpenters, Carriers, Taylors, & such like men, very honest and good companions.

Vallentine.

And so I thinke, but not for you beeing a Gentleman: for as their resort vnto your house shal giue them occasion to learne some point of ciuility, and curtesie, so your conuersinge with them will make you taste of their bluntnes and rusticitie, which will very euill become a man of your calling.

Vincent.

What would you then haue mee liue alone, and solitary: That were worse then to bee dead.

Vallentine.

Nay, neither, for if you did, for the most liue in Court or Cittie among the better sorte, you should euer finde company there, fit for your estate and condicion: I meane Noble and Gentlemen, (with whom if you had acquaintance) you would litle delight in this rustical conuersation, and lesse reioyce at that mirth, which (now not knowinge better) doth (as it seemeth) please you much.

Vincent.

If these pastimes bee not fit for a Gentleman, what would you haue vs to make our selues mery with:

Vallentine.

That wil I tel you hereafter, when you demaund to know the pastimes and exercises of Court. In the meane time, tell on your owne tale, being now
come

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

come to the last commodity of the Countrey which is profit.

Vincent.

I thought it had beene needles for mee to haue saide any thing therof, because I thinke you see y^e matter in such experience, as it nedeth no dispute.

Vallentine.

What meane you by that? when there is nothing (as I tolde you long since,) perfittly good, nor perfittly euill, onely vertue and vice except.

Vincent.

All this while you flye aboue my pitch, I praye you speake plainely, Doo you thinke the thrifte of Noble men and Gentlemen, haunting the Court, or inhabitinge the Citties, is comparable to the good husbandry and profit of the Countrey.

Vallentine.

Pea surely do I, and therfore conclude not in hast.

Vincent.

How can it so bee, when the most part, yea in effect, all Courtiers, and to some dwelling Gentlemen bee beggers (or at the least poore in purse) and wee of the Countrey, bee either all, or the greater number, very wealthy, or ritche enough.

Vallentine.

All this may bee true, and yet neither the Court or to some is cause of their pouerty, nor the Countrey dwelling, the occasion of your ritches.

Vincent.

Well sye, sith experience will not perswade you, I will set downe some reasons to drawe you to mine opinion. And first call you to memory the continuall & excessive charge which the Courtier,

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

My Citty dweller is at, I mean in feeding him self, seruautes, and famely: likewise how costly and almost princely hee apparrelleth him selfe, his wife, his children, and seruautes, and all this charge goeth from the purse, for prouision hath hee none: neither doth hee sow any graine, reare any cattel, nor his wife and women seruaunts spin any cloth, & though they so did, none I suppose of you would weare it, such is your pride. On the other side, all the corne wee make our bread of, groweth on our demeane ground, the flesh wee eat, is all (or the most parte) of our owne breeding, our garmentes also, or much therof, made within our house. Our owne Vault and water maketh our drinke: So as in conclusion, I say that fith the necessities of mans life consisteth vpon these: I meane meate, drinke, and cloth. (All which cost vs nothinge, or very litle, and you very much) how can you in reason conceaue, that wee should bee no richer then you, that haunt Courts, and inhabit Citties.

Valentine.

What you alleage, or the most therof, I thinke is true, but your conclusion false: for albeit your prouisions be great, yet your expences beeing greater, your thrifte is like to ours, who haue small prouision, and like charge.

Vincent.

How can your charge bee litle, when the cost of keepinge one man in Court, or Towne, will be as much, as to keepe three in the Countrey.

Valentine.

And that I iudge is also true, but if my one man in the towne, will serue mee as well as your three

me

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

men in the Countrey serue you, though that one spendeth mee as much as your three, I care not: for my thirst is no whit the lesse, nor yours & more, if of force (as in deede you must) keepe so many. For where there is (as you alleage) great Tillage, rearinge vp of Cattell, Spinninge, and Cardinge, with daily resorte, besides of straungers, (as is commonly to Gentlemen in the Countrey,) there must needes bee also many seruantes, which con- course of people, and busines breedeth occasion of continuall expence of victuall: So as in effect you keepe many that doo bring you home profite, and they with others, doo straight waies eat it vp, what are you then the better: but by thus much the worse then we, that you are combred with the vnlooked for resorte of freends and foes, and the daily feeding of many seruantes.

Hee thinke your speech hath good sence, yet because it is long, I do not perfittly conceaue it, as I desire, I pray you tell mee your reason breiefely.

Then must you imagine that you haue ten loads of Haye in your Stable, and ten horses which of force you must keepe. In my Stable I haue but one load, and one horse, now will I aske you whether your proportion bee larger for your cattell, or mine for mee.

Vincent.

They seeme all one, sauinge that hee that hath the greatest prouision, hath also the greater trouble.

Then I am glad you vnderstande: For such is

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

The difference, betwixt the Countrey and towne dweller, the one hath much prouision, and many to spend it, the other hath litle, and few to consume it. So as I gesse, all comes to one reckoninge, saue that the greatest hauer, hath the lesse quiet.

Vincent.

But yet by your leane (Maister Vallentine) you say beleeuen Courtiers, albeit you want prouision, and haue litle, yet will you also spend much. And how then?

Vallentine.

May then I say, so many of vs (as indeede such is the honour of the most) bee plaine banckes routes, and beggers, as you call vs, but in whom is the fault: not in the Court nor yet in the towne. But in our owne selues, and our owne folly: But such as liue in Court or in towne orderly, & spende within their proportion, may bee equall with you in thriste, and in quietnes far before you.

Vincent.

Yet haue you not fully answered mee, for sith besides my yearly rentes, I haue three or foure hundred Acres of demaine landes, wherupon my prouision groweth, I accompt my house costeth me nothing, when you that haue none, but liue on the penny, must needes spend without measure.

Vallentine.

Why say if you lust, let out your demaines, were it worth no rente?

Vincent.

Yes that it were, for there is no Acte of it; but would yeeld mee yearly a crowne.

Vallentine.

¶

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vallentine.

Then may you accompt, your prouision cost you yearly foure hundreth crownes.

Vincent.

By my fay, you say troth, for if I did not eate it, I perceauie I should haue it: But then how should my house bee kept, and my neighbours loue mee?

Vallentine.

A great deale better now for you, & other Gentlemen disposing your selues, (as ful yll it becommeth you) to bee Ploughmen, you haue learned what euery soyle is worth, and so after that rate, set out your land, wherby the poore Husbandman or Farmer payeth so deare for your comming, and neighborhood, as hee had rather you liued further off like a Gentleman, though for very flattery or feare when hee dineth at your Boarde, hee saith, hee is sorry your worship would dwell away, when God wotteth, the poore man meaneth nothinge lesse: For I haue learned that those Tennautes haue best peny worthes of their farmes, whose Landlordes do least know the Lande, or dwell furthest from it. Wherfore you deceaue your selfe, to thinke that your continuall dwelling in the Country, doth ease the poore Ploughman, so long as you play the Ploughman your selfe, or let your lande at great rente: For shall you not finde a number of poore Husbandmen that almost starue for want of lande to manure? wherof I iudge nothinge a greater cause, then that Gentlemen bee become Ploughmen, and are not contente to let the poore hier it, and liue of the rente, as their calling is, which couetous, and clovnishe honour they cloake vnder

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

pretence of hospitalltie. Vincent.

But if I should not occupy my lande, how should I know what it were worth: for this I found by experience (calling home into my handes certayne coppy houldes, let out by mine Ancestors) that euery Acre was twise so much worth, as the rente I receiued for it.

Vallentine.

Loe, now in earnest you speake like a worshipfull Ploughman, not like a worthy Gentleman, for this experience, wherof you speake, were better unknown then vsed. Therefore some Doctors doe thinke it better not to know all thinges, then to know them: meaning (as I iudge) that euery man should not bee to deepe a searcher in an others profession or mistery, least led on with priuate profit he hindereth the common comoditie.

Vincent.

By this reason (wherin I confesse is good sence) the Gentlemen of y^e Country that occupieth much lande with his owne Plough, and feedeth many other, letting also his lande wel and roundly, were as well spared, as present among his Tennantes: Notwithstanding hee keepeth good hospitalltie.

Vallentine.

Yea certainly, for they giue the poore men their Tennants, a meales meat twise a weeke worth a groate, and force him to pay a shillinge more then hee was wonte, before his lorde became so skilfull a husband. Yea by your leaue also, if your poore Tennant presentes you with a couple of Capons, or a Digge, it is many times welcome, all the meat hee eateth at your Table is not so much worth.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent.

I partly conceaue now the substance of al this discourse vpon profit, & finde in deede that comparing the number which wee keepe in the countrey, with those that you do in the Cittie, the cost of householdinge commeth all to one accompt, and to confesse troth, I suppose there is more certenty in the proportion of your charges then in ours. And (as I graunted before) not halfe the trouble. And sith I am led thus far from mine olde foolish minde and common loue to our countrey custome, to inhabite there, I will tell you of great and excessive priuie charges, which wee be at in our houses. (I meane in our household stuffe, and cheefely linnen, for if a Gentleman haue in his house twenty beads, (as manye haue) and some a greater number, wee haue them full often occupied with straungers and their seruants, who for the most parte bee so careless, or slouenly, as they will make quicke speede to weare out not only our linnen, but also our hanginges, Curtaines, and Canopies of silke: So as within a litle time wee spoyle a great deale of good stuffe, and then forced to buy new. For as you see Gentlemen daily resorte vnto common Innes, so do they daily resort to Gentlemens houses, with man and horse, hauke and dog, till the poore Master of the house hath al his linnen foule, al his provision eaten, & his householdstuffe made vnseruery, & oft times torne and spoiled. But al this notwithstanding I acknowledge to be true, yet it grieueth mee to dwel from my owne house where my neighbors loue me, & my tenants do feare me, yet would I faine do, as you aduise me were not the fashion, and the custome to the contrary.

Vallentine.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vallentine.

By so saying, you renue an olde verse, that beeing
a Schoole boy, I oftentimes red: *Video meliora,
proboq; deteriora sequor.* But I praye you let no-
thinge that is euil, vnfit or vnprofitable entice you
to continue it, because the same hath beene an aun-
cient custome, for I dare warrant you, that Vice
is as olde, as any vertue: and yet I hope you are
not so simple, as for the age (against all reason) you
will allow it for good.

Vincent.

In very deede, you discourse so well, as I must
needes confesse my selfe Driven to the wall, with
playne reason, yet while it comes to my minde, let
mee aske you how your Wines will bee brought to
leane their Countrey Gollippes, with whom they
hane had longe loue and familiaritie. Also to dis-
charge their Dayeries (which is their priuate pro-
fite) will touch their stomackes neare, cheefely the
thriftier sorte, and good huswies: for some that
loue not huswuiery would easely bee perswaded to
the Towne, because they may lye longe a bed, and
weare gay garments.

Vallentine.

Now haue you mooued a sober doubt, and well
I wot not how to answer therunto, vnlesse I
knew your wines disposition, for I am very lothe
to offend: Notwithstandinge because wee do com-
mon heare priuately, and not as they doo in Par-
liament iudicially. I wil tel you my opinion touch-
inge your wines, I pray you heare what I say, but
tell not them, what I sayde: (or if you doo) say not
from whom you had it.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life

With all my hart, for I learned longe agoe, (as
I remember of olde Ouid the louer) *Parus tacere*
labore

Then doe I tell you flatly, that your wiues bee
no leffe, but happely more from the order of ciuili-
tie, and the life of Gentlewomen then you are your
selues, and therefore can I lightly beleue, they will
not bee willingly brought to leaue their Countrey
gossips, and gamesters, and more hardly to put a-
way their good milch Cows: But your wise dome
must euer rule their couetous folly: For if you con-
sider how vncumly a thing it is to see, (as I haue
some times seene, and you I am sure often.) A
Gentlewoman walkinge in the pastures, among
her Cows, and Calues, al to be dabled with Debe
and Dyfte, and other whiles wandering in the hot
sommer a longe mile, to finde out her hey makers,
or corne reapers: So as beeing come thither, or at
the least before shee bee returned home to her hus-
bands boord, or bed, what with myre in winter, and
sweating in sommer, shee is become a morsell more
meete for a Mowse, or a Mole: then a Gentle-
man, or a ciuill husbando. This I know is their
vse: yea, I haue seene some of greater title then a
Gentlewoman vse this manner of toyling: And if
any other Gentlewoman bee more fine or delicate
(as shee ought to bee indeede) shee is miliked a-
mong them, and called a cleane fingered girle, as
though that were a great ignomy. But now sye,
I dare promise that you hauinge yeelded to bee ci-
uill your selfe, will no more allow of this life in your
wiues,

Cytille and vnciuile life.

wiues: But remoue such manners from them, either by reason or ouer rulinge, for by sex is not ener reasonably.

Vincent. For my parte, I wish my wife were not so paynfull an huswife, and yet is that no euell propertie, but a thinge very profitable. And though good huswiues in deed, must neither shun the Summer sweat, nor doubt to march in the Winter myre, yet I warrant you vpon the Hollyday, or when shee lust to goe into fine company, shee hath good garments, and can weare them well and Courtly. So can also our Gentlemen of the Countrey, for though wee walke at home plaine ly apparrelled: yet when wee come to the Alizes, London, or any other place of assembly, wee will put on Courtlike garments, (and though I say it) some of vs weare them with good grace.

Vallentine. I beleue you, euen like a Constable in Widsome in a watch. But this is no great matter.

Vincent. Well then wee do not differ much: Let vs therefore come to conclusion, because I longe to heare how men be trained, and exercised in Courte and Cittie, for (as it seemed by your speeche) their manner of liues, doo much resemble one thother.

Vallentine. And so they doo in deed, I meane the Gentlemen, and not the Marchants and Meeanicall people, for their trade (as you can conceaue) is turned an other waies: But I praye you say on, for it seemed, you ment to resight in breefe the somme of all this speech, and how well we haue by consent resolved.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent. That is my intent, so far as wit and memory
shall serue mee. But first let mee intreat you to tel
me what of Courte, and what of dwelling: then
shall you heare my minde, and conclusion of all to-
gether.

Vallentine. I leave that to you. I must (wille
I, I wille) (Maister Vincent) I must (wille I
should) (you) commend your memory a great
deale, and many thanks must I also alowe you,
for your patience in hearing my poore reason, and
discourse, which (as it seemeth) is not in vaine, but
hath taken the effecte I desired.

Vincent. I am assured, and the more you assured. I
pray you not to let us forget the Countrey, and (as
you promised,) say somewhat of the Court & Cittie
habitation. For I am a straunger to these places,
though your hap bee to finde mee here at this pre-
sent in London.

Vallentine. I am assured, and the more you assured. I
pray you not to let us forget the Countrey, and (as
you promised,) say somewhat of the Court & Cittie
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sent in London.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

prooued, that in those places ought to be y Gentle-
mens cheefe abode, yet I thinke it not necessary
to make any new comparison: But onely to touch
some matters, how men do there liue, and in what
ages and estates the Courtinge life doth becoine:
For to take vpon mee to frame a Courtier, were
presumption, I leaue that to the Earle Baldazar,
whose Booke translated by Sir Thomas Hobby, I
thinke you haue, or ought to haue read. I wil not
therfore cumber you with the education of a gentle-
man, for that is already spoken of. For whither the
same bee in Armes or learning, it is indifferent, for
(as I tolde you) the state hath neede of both, and
both do alike beseeue him vnderstande you, then
that all Gentlemen inhabiting the Citties, & there
from their Cradle brought vp, can not bee so hard
to bee entred into a ciuill life, as they were, beeing
brought vp in the Countrey till they bee sixteene
or eyghtene yeares olde, before which time they
are so deeply rooted in rusticitie, as they prooue
like vnto the haggard haukes, which many times
are so wilde and indisciplinable, as wil either neuer
or with great labour bee reclaimed. The like I say
of their liues, through rusticall company in childe-
hoode, doo get themselves as it were an habite in
loughy looks, clownish speech, and other vngentle
manly Iestures, as it is a good while (yea many
times neuer) that those rusticities bee leaffe. But
I will no more speake of children: onely this I say
that young Gentlemen, (whose Parentes inhabit
the Cittie, and are desirous to haue their Sonnes
well and vertuously brought vp) besides that, they
shal be free from these Countrey conditions, they
may,

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

may, or then come to this age, bee perfectly learned in the Greeke and Lattin tongues, and other whyles in other bolgare languages: also he may haue some good intrance in the sciences Mathematicall knowledges, very fitte for a Martiall man, and not vnfit for the Ciuill Officer: Whereof I infer that at this age, or shortly after hee is to bee iudged, whether to hee is by nature and desire most inclined.

Vincent.

Wee will then for this time imagine (and for my part so will) that all Noble and Gentlemen, did dwell in Citties, and Townes, and that thereby their children should not be infected with the countrey conditions, but were as apte for Courte, and Ciuilitie, as you would haue them: what would you then they should do, being come to eyghtene or twenty yeares: as you seeine to desire, beinge well entred and learned in those studies, that become a Gentleman.

Vallentine.

I would then (findinge the inclination of my sonne to learninge) continue and encourage him therein, and make him (I hope) a man fit for his countrey, or at the least for him selfe.

Vincent.

As how: I pray you proceede: for beinge now my selfe perswaded to dwell in the Cittie, & haue many younge children, I would directe them the best I could.

Vallentine.

I wish that your sonne, hauing passed the scholes, and spent some time in the vniuersitie, finding him disposed to learne the cominon lawes, you should

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

in any wise continue him, and (as I sayd before) holde him therto as a study both necessary for the state, and profitable for him selfe. Or if he rather affecteth the lawes Ciuill, or the science Mathematicall, I would aduise you (if such bee your ability) to send him to study in the Vniuersities of forraine Countreies, where hee may make double profit, I meane, learne the knowledge hee seeketh, and also the language of the place.

Vincent.

But I pray you, giue mee leave to demaunde to what vse the knowledge of y^e lawes ciuill do serue, for it is the law of the Realme, only (as I thinke) that bringeth in both honor, and profit.

Valentine.

I deny not, but after our longe peace and quiet, (which God continue) the common lawes of this Realme, hath both aduanced, and enriched many, for (such is the nature of men) as they neuer cease one to molest the other, not beeinge by some forraine molestacion offended, they conuert their ambition, and couetous one agaynst the other. Whereupon they call one the other to tryall of lawe, in those contentions (which are many) the men of lawe, are hired and imployed, to their exceeding profit and gayne. But touching the ciuill lawes, I say that is a most noble knowledge, beeinge the law almost vniuersall to all Christendome, & therefore such as attaine to the knowledge therof, shall not onely in this lande, & many other, hable themselves to get their owne liueload: But also be men most fit to counsell Princes, and all estates of governments both in causes Ciuill and Martiall: For

by

Cyuiile and vnciuile life.

By them all differentes bee dissided: The learned Ciuilian therfore (besides his owne perticuler) is a man very fit, & imployable in all counsels of estate and Ambassages, as hee that is skillfull of the gouernment vniuersall. And if (as before I sayd) his learninge be gotten in forraine Countreys, he shall also bee helped with language and some experience.

Vincent.

Surely say, this is more then I euer hard, for I supposed the onely profite and reputation of this learninge had been in the Arches and Spiritual Courtes, as wee call them. But now I finde that Ciuilians, can serue better purposes, and in euery christian countrey, make wiste to earne their owne thinges. I pray you what shall we dispose of those young men, y loue a Latonce or a Sword better then either a Booke, or a long gobone.

Vallentine.

I thinke, I tolde you talking of the Countrey, that in my poore opinion there was no Gentilman (vnlesse hee were witlesse,) but might bee made fit for sumwhat. Such therfore, as were persons disposed of Body, after the age beforesayde, and not affected to the studdie of these lawes, I would notwithstanding holde them in loue of the Mathematicall Sciences, and preferre them into the seruice of Noble men, and Captaynes, eyther at home, or els in forraine Countreys, who haunting the warres, shal enstruct these young fellowes, in all orders and Martiall discipline, wherein helped with the knowledge of the sayde Science.

They

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

They shall in short space, become not onely good and obediēte Souldiers: But also skilfull commanders, and perfitte Captaines. Others also may with daily practise prooue excellent in the Art of Ridinge, and others in Saylinge or Navigation: So as the Marciall exercises bee diuerse, all fitte for a Gentleman, & most expedient for the Princes seruice.

Vincent.

But these qualities bee (as I thinke) slow occupations to thriue by: notwithstanding they are full painefull and perillous, many men, yea (euery man at one time or other) haue neede of a Lawier: But a Captaine, a man of Armes, or a Souldiour (cheerly in time of peace) no man needeth. If therefore a young Gentleman, beeing of eyghtene or twenty yeares old, should during five, sixe, or seuen yeares nexte after, wholly endenour him selfe in these disciplines and Marciall exercises, and doth become in them expert, or happely excellent, returned home into Englande, where all is peace, what vse were there of his vertue, or who would maintayne him?

Vallentine.

I must say those sortes of men seruiceable, bee not so well provided for as they deserue, & I desire. Notwithstanding, sith the number of Gentlemen, who apply them selues that wayes bee not many: I iudge beeing men in deede of vertue and valour, our Prince, (for that hee is both liberall, and valourous,) would willingly afforde them maintenaunce, besides that, there are diuerse Noble men and great Councellores, some very souldiers them selues,

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

selues, and some louers, as well of armes as learning that would likewise put their handes to helpe so vertuous and industrious a youth.

Vincent.

And so do I suppose also, and doo heare it daily wished, that all sortes of men imployable in the state were prouided for: notwithstanding, with the vse of these is but seldome, I see no ordinance, or speciall prouision for them. And in deede, a man not needed, seemeth superfluous, and may be forgotten.

Vallentine.

You haue reasoned wisely, but not well, for if your horse should no longer bee allowed prouender, then during the time you ride him, I warrant you your iourney could not bee longe. Or if your seruant should haue wages, but for howres wherein he laboureth, then should you pay him but for half the yeare, for euery night (as reason is) hee resteth.

Vincent.

You are (Maister Vallentine,) very nimbly witted, and therefore will I not reple, but in that which reason doth maintaine. And touching our matter, Let vs presuppose that some younge Gentleman hath in the prime of his youth disposed him selfe industriously in studdy, warres, and trauell, where hee caught that knowledge or experience, that doth recomende him to the Princes service: what is the order of the life there, and wherein shall he exercise him selfe at the first comminge, or after some yeares of aboad there, and at what age may hee without offence, retire him selfe.

A

Vallentine.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vallentine.

You are very discrete and orderly in all your demaunds, I would wish you to aske of more skilfull Courtiers, for though I haue seene the Courtes of sundry forraine Princes, and serued longe our owne Soueraigne, yet dare I not accompt my self so perfite, as to enforce you in euery of these.

Vincent.

I haue saide, and so I must once more say, that you are ouer full of respectes, which humoz you found beyond the Mountaynes: I pray you laye by this curiositie, and do (as you partly promised,) tell of the order of a Courtly life, and what exercises becomineth a Courtier in euery age, and begin at five and twenty yeares, or there about, for before that time, a young Gentleman may haue both studied in Schooles, seen the warre, and trauelled Countreys: Which three thinges, or at the least one of the, in any wise I wish a Gentleman should doo, to make him worthy of a Princes seruite.

Vallentine.

Such a man, beeing retained to the Prince, his best meane to aduancement (as I thinke) is to excell, (if possible hee may) in that he professeth, adding therunto dilligence, and fidelity in seruite. And if hee professeth specially armes, I would hee aduentured him selfe, in euery honourable warre, till such time as hee hath gayned the true knowledge and reputation of a Souldier. And touching the exercises of such a one, duringe his aboad in Court, it shall well become his age and profession, to handle all sorts of armes, both on horseback and foote, leape, daunce, runne, ride, (and if hee so like)

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

like) play at all sortes of games, so that hee accompanieth either his betters or equals, and that with such discretio, as his los be not at any tyme so great as to occasion his ruyn: It will also stand wel with his condition to entertaine Ladyes, and serue specially some one, whose vertue and priuate curtesie, doth at his hand best deserue. One other thinge also I wish hee bled, I meane that at the least, one booke of euery day hee should read, either in some notable History, or excellent discourse: For that will much exercise the minde, & encrease the knowledge.

Vincent.

It is true, that as the strength of body brused, will quickly decay, so wil also the wit and memory. But I pray you tell mee when these lusty exercises will become a Gentleman, I meane, whether they bee seemely all his life, or but only for some certaine yeares.

Vallentine.

In this question I am sure you answered your selfe, that they are seldome seemely, in a man of ripe age, and in olde yeares very ridiculous. For if you should see an olde Gentleman, with a white or grisly bearde, take vpon him to daunce, or turne for his Mistrisse fauour, I suppose you would not looke on him without laughter, nor wee with out disdain: yea, (such is the force of cunlinesse) as euen in those that make profession of dauncing, but lesse their yeares be fit for the vse therof, they doo rather instruct others, then vse it them selues. But armes becommeth a Gentleman in all ages: But yet diuersly, for old men must only in earnest vse it.

Alit

But

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

But young men both in earnest & spozte, are bound to that exercise.

Vincent.

Yet haue you not tolde mee how longe this lyfe wilbe seemely.

Vallentine.

I pray you presse mee no moze with these demaunds, for I referred you to a booke & can better enforme you. Yet sith you seeke my opinion, I say (as in a sorte I haue already sayd) that these exercises of bodie, doo only become youth: And therefore that age (which I suppose by the Philosophers rule) endeth at thirty and fiue yeares doth onely grace a Gentleman in them. After that time, beeing of capassitie, and experience, hee is rather to be imployed in serious seruices, then left at leysure, to entertayne Ladies, or Daunce a Galliard.

Vincent.

But if it happeneth hee bee not bled in any action meete for his age and skill: But either through want of occasion, freendes or fortune, let stand still in his first estate, without either aduancement, or imployment, beeing no longer fit for loue and dalliance: How should hee grace him self in Court?

Vallentine.

Truly (as I take it) beeing come to the decayne of his age, and drawing neare to forty yeares, hee may without offence retire him selfe, and resigne his ordinary attendance, resortinge some times to see his Soueraigne, as a cheefe comfort. For if you consider well, that place which requireth the person of a younge man, will misbecome the same body beeing in yeares: also, while youth and lust lasted

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

lasted, there was hope of good: which now decayed
the man becometh not only unfit for the place he
vsed: But also (not preferred) looseth the reputa-
tion, wherein his vertue and expectation did holde
him.

Vincent.
You speake like a man of experience and iudge-
ment, as one that knoweth what is becomming in
euery age, and estate. Notwithstandinge I see
some vnaduanced, & also vnemployed Courtiers,
that dwell in their young places of service, even to
their last yeares.

Vallentine.

Euen so in troth it is, and the occasions thereof
diuerse. Some there are of those men, very im-
ployable, yet therewith deeply infected with am-
bition, and therfore will neuer leaue the Courte,
clearely forgetting, that Fortune is a woman, which
sexe seldome preferreth folke of declining age.

Others hauinge happely committed some error,
and therby incurred the princes offence, beeing pe-
nitent, and desirous to recouer fauour and reputa-
tion, doo notwithstanding they know themselves
ouer aged for their profession, stil attend a plausible
departure: which is not quickly obtayned, for (you
wot well) Ira, and Irabundia, bee speedier passions,
then are Bencuolentia and Gratia.

Vincent.

The thirde sorte, are the Childzen of Phao, who
for want of wit, will imagine they bee ever young,
neuer knowinge what becometh them, but still stay
in Courte without countenance, not to aspire to
any thinge, but to eate and drinke among Lords.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

for them was the Florentyne Prouerbe deuised,
which saith: Chi S'inuicchia in Corte in paglia more.

Vincent.

Sir, you needed not so far to haue fetched a Prouerbe, to apply to this purpose, for wee haue one of our owne: But I thanke you for yours, you teach mee betwixt times, some beyond sea.

Vallentine.

Then (Maister Vincent,) sith you encounter mee with mockes, I will speake no more of Court, but as I haue oft tolde, wish you to peruse the booke of the Courtier.

Vincent.

Yet one word more of the Court, and then speake wherEOF you please. You seemed, to say that Learning & Armes, were the true professions of a gentleman, would you then that when hee cometh to age hee should abandon one of them? I meane Armes: or be so discourteous, as no longer to loue Ladyes.

Vallentine.

I meane nothing lesse: But that duringe life, a Gentleman should professe Armes, and at occasions, vse them (as I tolde you before) in age earnestly, in youth, both in earnest & sporte. Also I would haue all Gentlemen, euen to their dying dayes, to honour Ladyes, although to serue them daily in Courte and dalliance, I holde olde men farre vnmeet.

Vincent

I am satisfied, and because you haue so ofte addressed mee to the Earle Baldazar, I will speake no more

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

more of Courte, but come home to the Cittie, which is or ought to bee our habitation: Doth it please you to commaunde mee anye service there?

Valentine.

No service good syr, but desire you will commaund mee, wherin I am able.

Vincent.

I knowe your abilitie to bee much more then I will imploye: But sithe you so freely offer your selfe, I praye you (but not commaund you) to tell what is your order of life in the Cittie, and which bee your exercises, both of body and minde.

Valentine.

The manner of the most Gentlemen, and Noble men also, is to house them selues (if possible they may) in the Subburbes of the Cittie, because mooste commonly the ayre there beeinge somewhat at large, the place is healthy, and through the distaunce from the bodye of the Towne, the noyse not much: and so consequently quiet. Also for commoditie wee finde many lodgings, both spacious and roomethy, with Gardaines, and Orcharδες very delectable. So as with good gouernment, wee haue as litle cause to feare infection there, as in the very Countrey: our water is excellent, and much better then you haue anye, our ground and feeldes most pleasaunte, our fier equall with yours. This much touching the site of our Towne dwellinge and the Elements.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent.

Then my desire is to know, how you be furnished of al sortes of prouision: as flesh and fish, beere and bread, wood and coale, hay and oates, with euery other thing needfull, either for your ordinary expences, or for feasting your freendes at occasions.

Vallentine.

All these thinges wee haue with lesse labour then you of the Countrey, where the same doth grow: For either it is brought to our very Gates, and offered vs, or els in the Market, hard at hand, wee may buy it.

Vincent.

But so dearely, as euery penny worth of prouision in the Countrey, is worth three of yours.

Vallentine.

That may hap so to bee, and yet (as I tolde you already) I may better afforde a penny for three Egges in the Cittie, then for nine in the Country.

Vincent.

And how can that bee, is not nine more then three, and will goe further?

Vallentine.

Yes truly, but sithe a penny in Egges wil serue the turne, for my few I keepe in the Cittie: And your penny though it bringeth you more plenty, yet seeinge you haue so much people, as will deuoure it, commeth not the matter to one reckoninge: saue that the aduantage is ours, that in costinge our three Egges is not so great troubles as yours, in costing of nine.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent.
Certainly (Maister Vallentine,) you are an excellent Arithmetricon among egges: But I pray you tell mee howe shal our children bee brought vp, and where shal wee haue Schoolemaisters to teache them.

Vallentine.
A great number of better then any Sir Iohn of the Countrey, who most commonly teacheth your children, that him selfe knoweth not, and yet either because you are lothe your Babes should be set far from your sleeves, or that there you may haue the taught best cheape, you will in no wise seeke out a skilfull Tutor in Deede. But when you shal inhabit the Cittie, you haue there choice of excellent Maisters, not only for the Grammer, and such boy studies, but also in all sortes of learning.

Vincent.

That is a very good thinge, and an excellent commoditie. Nowe I desire you to instructe mee, what repaire will bee to our houses, and howe wee are to entertaine them, for I am ignorant in all, because I neuer dwelt in the Cittie.

Vallentine.

Of my former speeche, comparing the Countrey custome with ours, you might haue gathered, that vnoccasioned, or not contrpyued, no man will resort vnto your Town house, except he be your brother, your sonne, or some dere frend, whom you accompt as your selfe, els none without occasion, which happening, they that seke you are so respectiue, as neither at the houre of dinner or supper, they will looke you, if their busines doth not very much bryge

th

them.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

them. And if happely you do innite any, of what condition soeuer hee bee, his seruantes doo not charge you, no nor trouble you, for they retire, till such time as their Maister haue dined, of what degree or title so euer is sayd. And orde. or Maister bee. So as the greatest Lord shal no more pester your Hall, or disorder your prouision, then y least gentleman, or meaneest freend, (except it) bee that for one meale, you will to honour the great guest make your fare the better.

Vincent. That is a great sauing to my purse, and sparing mee from trouble: In Country the custome is contrary, the charge of our Halles is more then our owne Table, and the trouble to serue the seruants exceeding. But when wee haue no company but by these happes, wee shalbe (I suppose) very solitary.

Vallentine. Euen so much as pleaseth your selfe, for when you lust to tarry alone, no man will presse you: if you wilbe accompanied, a small conuitation will traine freendes vnto you, and these men of more ciuilitie, wisdom, and worth, then your rude Countrey Gentlemen, or rusticall Neighbourres. If you delight in grave men & sober, you shal easely acquaint your selfe with such. If you pleasure in myrth and pleasant companions, they are at hand. If you like of learmed men, there are they found. If you wil haue or hunt, there are fawknars & hunters enough. If you will ride, there are horsemen. And to bee worse, you shal neuer lacke company fit for your honour, age, and desire.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent.

I am very glad of those newes, for wee Countrey Gentlemen loue not to eate, nor dwell alone: But yet mee thinke I shall hazard my health: notwithstandinge, if my body bee diseased (as it may bee, whersoever I dwell) wee may haue (I suppose) plenty of Physicians to cure vs. The want of which men is cause that in the Countrey, many do I think daily perish, whose liues might by their skill bee preserved.

Vallentine.

Yea certainly syr, many in deede for want of good medicines doo no doubt miscarry: And euen in mine own experience I haue knowen a Gentleman or two, that were driuen to die, for want of a poore Surgion, or a Barbor to let them blood.

Vincent.

The more is the pittie. Now hauing hard what life I shall haue for my towne habitation, and likewise how I may be accompanied, I desire to know with what matters I shall entertaine my minde, and exercise my body.

Vallentine.

I haue tolde you often, and euer will tell you, that the cheefe and principall studies, and delight of a Gentleman, must bee learninge and Armes: And therefore such as haue ciuilly brought vp, do seldom muse on other matters. For though they refuse not for company & conuersation to haue a hunte, fish and fowle, Bowle or coyte, or any other honest pastime, yet is our most continuall exercise eyther studie or ridinge of great and seruiceable horses, with y^e one we entertaine our mindes, with the other we exercise our bodie, & b^oth with great deliaht

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Are not these occupations to much more purpose then either hauking or huntinge, or any other pastime which you Countrey Gentlemen do vse?

Vincent.

In respect of the common wealth, I suppose they are to better purpose, and yet are they costly: for the buyinge of many booke, and hirlinge of learned men to instruct you, is a thinge (as I take it) very chargeable. Likewise to maintaine two or three seruiceable horses, with good feedinge and keeping, will proue exceeding costly.

Vallentine.

You say truely, and yet lay by your haukes, and your dogges with their keepers, and such charges as are incidente to those pastimes, then shall you finde that the practise of learninge and armes, is not more costly then these, and to dyceing and cardinge not comperable. You shall also consider, that for those Noble or Gentlemen that bee not bound to attendaunce to follow Court, but at their owne willes, may make provision in the Cittie, and kepe their horses there, it is a matter of supportable expence. And many Gentlemen there are, that spend yearly so much hay and corne, vpon huntinge and haukinge Iades, as would maintayne halfe a dozen able horses to serue their Prince.

Vincent.

But would you haue euery Gentleman to kepe seruiceable horses, even those þe liue to themselves, and receaue no pay of the Prince, either in war or Court?

Vallentine.

Yea surely say, euery Gentleman of abillity ought to

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

to doo it, for vnlesse hee be at all times well armed and horsed, I holde him vnworthy the name of a Gentleman, yea, though hee weareth the longe Roabe.

Vincent,

Then will you put our Gentlemen to double charges, I meane to keepe their haukinge nags, and their horses of seruite also.

Vallentine.

I will not with them to that. For I desire onely to see them furnished like Gentlemen, not like Faulkners: if there were fewer haukes, and more horses, I suppose it were better for the state, and more worship for y^e Gentlemen. Also (if you marke it well) it is (besides the necessity,) a better and more commendable sight, to see a Gentleman ride with three fayre horses, then fiftene of those vncomly Curtalles.

Vincent.

In that I must also concurre with you in opinion.

Vallentine.

Yea, I am sure you will, and so will euery other man in who there is either iudgement or courage. And if you were in some Countreies, where gentlemen doo in deede liue a ciuill life: You should daily see them so wel mounted, as would greatly delight you. And so great is there the desire of knowledge in Chualcy, and the vse of armes, as in sundry Citties they haue by consente, erected a pay and pension, for men expert to teach them these knowledges: So as what with their instructions, and their owne exercise, many become cunninge, and some very excellent. The like prouisions they haue

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Deuised, for the knowledge of Philosophy, and the Mathematicall Sciences, entertaining men excellent in them, to read publikely, who for their paines do receaue good reward, euen by the only bounty and beneuolence of Noble and Gentlemen, studious of honour and vertue.

Vincent.

How commeth this currage and noble desire of knowledge into those people, more then vnto vs?

Vallentine.

I dare not take vpo mee to iudge, but (as I gesse) the want of knowledge what honour is, must bee the principall occasion of our want of desire to excel both in learninge and Armes: Yea, in my poore minde, because we dwel in remote place, one gentleman far from other, so as the better cannot inform the worse: there is no meane made to enstruct the ignorant, but euery one disposeth him selfe almost as a poore Ploughman, making profit and riches the markes of all his indeuor.

Vincent.

Then it seemeth, that the Cittie, the Court, and other places of assembly, (I meane of Nobility) doth occasion men to learne the customes of curtesy, and pointes of honour.

Vallentine.

No doubt therof, for euen experience doth prooue, that so it is, for if you happen into the company of two Gentlemen, (though in wit and capacity alike) the one brought vp in the Countrey, the other in Court or Cittie, you shall euen at the first sight perceaue by their speeche, iesture, and behauiour, that their educations are diuerse.

Vincent.

Cyuiile and vnciuile life.

Vincent.

And that may so bee, yet the behauior of both good and gentlemanly enough. For you shall finde few Gentlemen of the Country, but they are sumwhat learned, and many of them brought vp in seruice, so longe as they can thereby know what reuerence or countenance to vse towards all sortes of men.

Vallentine.

That is but your opinion, for I will compare their good manners, or rather their euill manners vnto the skill of an vnskilfull Taylor or shoemaker: who dwelling among the countrey people, doth exercise his occupation: and not beeinge there any better workeman, is holden an excellent artizan: when in deede hee is a plaine bungler, and a very ignorant dolte. Euen so to those that neuer saw any ciuile men: they that weare any good garmentes, are without other consideration, accounted braue Gentlemen, and folke of good nurture.

Vincent.

Then I perceaue that euery man that can make a coate is not a Taylor, nor euery one that hath the name of a Gentleman, and goeth well apparellled, ought bee so reputed: vlesse the one bee skilfull in his crafte, and the other seemely in his garmentes.

Vallentine.

You take my meaning aright, and yet you must not thinke that these externall thinges, (I meane apparrell and iesture) bee the cheefest ornaments for a Gentleman. For the inwarde vertues and perfectiones be in troth of most waight, and cheefly required.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Vincent.

So haue I hard you already say, but few can attaine to perfection, and not many draw neare vnto it. Yet I thinke you shal finde in the Countrey the most part of those that beare the name of Gentlemen, that they are of capacitie sufficient & hable to talke of their Wive wherin they dwel, as of the fertilitye or barennes therof: of hauking or huntinge, fishing or fowlinge, and finally of all such matter as conserne either pleasure or profit, wherfore I finde no want in their wittes to bee supplied, vnles they happely lacke the Arte of Adulation, or the skil of ceremonious speech, which you trauellers haue brought from beyond the Seas.

Vallentine.

Sir you may bee bolde to tell mee of all faultes: for I can willingly confesse, that from far, many haue fetched full euill conditions. But therewith I pray you consider, that who so buyeth corne, must needes put some chaffe into his sackes: And so were yee better do then bring home no corne at all. Euen so hee that seeketh to knowe the best, must of force, happen vpon some euill: both which a wise man knoweth how to vse, & one to bee stored, the other to bee cast away and detested.

Vincent.

Yet haue you not tolde mee your opinion, touching our Countrey wittes and experience, neither haue you sayde ought, how you allowe of those thinges wherin wee are able to speake.

Vallentine.

I say they are not euil, neither is it vngentlemanlike to haue skill in matters of profit or pleasure.
And

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

And yet if your capacities comprehend no greater matter, you may proue fat franklins, or faukners for a prince, or perhaps hunts for my Lord Maior: but neuer become worthy the name of Gentlemen nor the estimation that therto belongeth.

Vincent.

In deede syr, I remember you tolde mee that armes and learning were the only occupations of a Gentleman, and these are not in troth any of the. Notwithstandinge you must vnderstand that the most of vs haue gone to scoole, and many haue seen some parte of the warres.

Vallentine.

Euery boy that hath been beaten for not learning his lesson, is not to be accompted learned, but hee that in deede hath learning, nor hee that a few dayes hath marched in armour ought be taken for a souldier: no more then those that for one nightes sleepe in Parnassus Hill, should bee reputed perfit Poets.

Vincent.

Truely it seemeth a thinge reasonable, that so noble knowledges are not gotten without long labour and perseuerance. But I pray you tell mee what imperfection you finde in the conuersation of our Countrey Gentlemen: whom (to tel you truly) I wold either more lettered, or better learned in the Martiall discipline.

Vallentine.

Since you so require mee, I will vse that (which you say is no property of a courtier) plainesse. And therefore I tell you, I besides those qualities you alleaged, I finde nothing els in my Countrey gentle-

men

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

men: & the same not accompanied with some taste of learning or artes, I account as nothing worth. Touching their conuersation, you shall besides the rusticitie of their houses and garments, finde them full of lofty lookes, barbarous behaviour, and vndecent dooings. As for ensample, some one will laugh when hee speaketh, another will cough before hee telles his tale: And some will gape or yawne when hee giueth the hearinge. So as in deede (vntlesse they be of better education, few doe know what countenance to make among y equals, and among their betters vtterly to seeke. Also if they hap to dine at any table, either they are fullen by silence, or els they fall into speeche of their owne Ancestors, their owne landes, their owne wiues or children, other subiect of talke yee shall seldome finde among these sortes of countrey men.

Vincent.
In good fayth syr, when I remember al mine acquaintance, I confesse that some of them (cheefely in company) are to seeke which way to loke: & much more how to entertaine. And this I speake not only of vs that dwell in the countrey, but by your leave of many Courtiers.

Vallentrine.
I am not so simple, (though simplest of many) but that I finde in Courte diuerse as vnworthy the name of Courtiers, as of you that deserue not the reputation of Gentlemen. But yet necessity and occasion do draw vs to be of better manner, & cheefly in our dooings to vse more respect. And would you practise mine opinion, to liue sumtimes in countrey, & sumtimes in cittie, yee could not choose but knowe the thrift of the one, wherof ye boast, and also the ciuility of the other.

Vincent.

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

All men are not apt for one thing, & mens delights be diuerse: for as some affect the scholes & learning, so others take pleasure in husbandry and tillage. Some haue minde to the warres, & loue to wander in forraine Countreys: others are willinge to follow princes affaires, & some are best content to tarry at home & liue to the selues. How the Would al men be expert in learning & armes. Vallentine.

I am glad you come so neare mee, for now wil I put ye in minde, & long since I tolde you, which is, that euery gentleman whilste hee were wittles will proue fit for some action, either Martiall or Ciuill, if he doth not, the fault is his owne, & doth not offer himselfe to indolence, or his foolish freends & would not comfort him to it. And so in conclusiō, I impute ^{not} fault to Nature, but rather to Nuture.

Vincent.

I had thought that nature had made euery man so affected as that he had been only meet, for that his freendes put him vnto, or that his Ancestors before him vsed and delighted. Vallentine.

Touching that, I will tell you how Licurgus the Law maker of Lacedemon handled the matter, to teach the people there, what education besides nature could do in men. Hee caused two dogges of one litter to be brought up, the one he committed to a man that delighted in huntinge, and so bled that whelp: the other was fostered by a poore villain, willing in no wise that dogge to doo other then eate and feede fat. These two whelpes being growne to ripe age, Licurgus commaunded they should be brought forth in his presence of many people, and with theē a Hare & a potful of poridge, which being

Cyuite and vnciuile life.

Metred to the dogges, and they both let loose, the one ran after the Hare, the other made hast to the porish pot. Wherby the Lacedemonians perceaued, that education & not nature, made in all creatures the difference of delightes, though some men are more and some lesse to goodnes enclined, yet every man apt for some what, though many haue made them selues fit for nothing.

Vincent.

To say troth, I know many good wits, that first for not beeing by freends adimitted to learne, and after through an habit of sloth, do become both vnlearned and very lawtes. Others both witty and curragious, yet vled to hoine, and not heering hoba vertuously some their equalles haue beene, are in time rather beastly then braue, rather effeminate then curragious.

Vallentine.

Well, now you see the minde both much, and the endeuor therof, maketh men worthy or vnbworthy the name of Gentlemen, of defaultes many accuse nature, wherof them selues are most gilty.

Vincent.

Concerning then (of that you haue spoken) how the ende of the Courtier is honour, & his exercises, Armes and learning. And that the country gentlemen aspireth to ritches, exercised cheefly in grasing and Tillage. It must needes bee, that their manners and customes are also diuerse. But as they bee in birth both equall, so ought they to haue lyke Delights & customes, wherfore to vnite them it behoueth that the one sorte do confirme them selues to the other.

Vallentine.

Cyville and vncyville life.

Then it is meete, that the worse do yeelde to the better, & the vnerpette, to those of best knowledge.
So were it both wisdompe and reason.

Vallentine.

And which of those men (as you thinke) liueth most vertuously, and are fittest for the state.

Surely sye, since I considered, that we must not liue onely for our selues, and our particuler profite, I am fully perswaded, that a gentleman vnkilfull in Armes and vtterly vbleached, is seldome found fit for any publique function, or employment. And no man denieth but that man, who is able to gouerne, is a person more worthy and necessary then hee that is gouerned.

For Aristotle a Father in Philosophy sayth: Regens est dimis rector

I am verie glad to heare you so say, for that was all I laboured you to beleue before we put full ende to our speech, let mee intreate you to tell that a good while since, your self offered, which is to resite in breefe, the sum of all our speech, whereby yee shal shew the excellency of your owne memory and also make these Gentlemen our hearers the better to carry away what hath beene sayd.

Vincent.

Understand you then, that through your good reasons (for which I hartely thanke you) I am brought to know that the education of a Gentleman ought bee onely in Learning and Armes, and that no Gentleman, no nor no Noble man should

And

with

Cyvil and viciuile life

in bingethen. In the firste place, I haue obserued
fifthly, that for health and wholesome habitation
the Citties, and some cheefe towne in England,
are either better or not inferiour to the sitz of the
Noble and Gentlemens houses. And thus I haue
said. Sixthly, I haue that the Citties dwelling both
much surpasse for quietnesse, and that the most parte
of Gentlemens country houses be frequented as
honourable hostries. And lastly, that the Court or Cittie habitation not
abused, is no lesse profitable then of the country,
and more free from trouble. Thus much of the country.

Touching the Court and Cittie, you tolde that
a Gentleman ought in the prime of his youth, en-
deuour him selfe to become sufficient for the serulce
of his Prince. Which sufficiency is attained vnto
through study, trauaile, and Martiall endeuour. I haue
for mynge briefely, at what age hee ought come to
Court, what his exercises should bee there, and in
what tyme and fortune it shal become him to retier
him selfe from thence: for (as it seemeth,) an olde
Courtier vnpreferred and vniemployed, looseth his
reputacion, and may be compared to a Non profi-
tens in Schoole. Concerning the rest, you referre
mee to the Booke of the Courtier.

Of the Cittie, you haue sayd sumwhat perticulerly
of the manner and syte of Gentlemens houses there
and likewise, how they may with commoditie and
reasonable cost bee furnished of al sorte of victuals
and other needfull prouision. Also that there be
more skilfull Tutors to instruct your children, then
wee possible can haue in the Country.

You doo also discourse well of the manner of
householding

Cyviile and vi ciuile life.

householdinge and the resorte of freendes in the
towne, to which seemeth not to be comber some.

On lastly, it appeareth your exercises bee cheefely
in letters and Armes, which bee both comnea-
dable and very necessary.

That much (as I thinke) is the fortune or prin-
cipall partes of your speeche, which I confesse to
bee very reasonable and good, and therfore con-
sent that a Gentleman so brought up, is more ciuil
then any Country man can bee: Likewise meetest
for gouernment, and for his private vertue moste to
bee regarded.

Vallehaime, this 20 of August 1592

Surely sye, you haue framed a proper Epilogue
of our speech. And sicke I see that you both con-
ceiue a right what hath beene perswaded, and are
also brought to beleue what is true, I will presse
you no further, but bidding you most hartely wel-
come to our towne habitation, as a place fittest for
a Gentleman, I take my leaue.

FINIS.

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